MYSORE

A REPRINT OF ARTICLES FROM THE

"MYSORE SUPPLEMENT"

OF

"THE HINDU"

BANGALORE:
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT AT THE GOVT. PRESS
1937

Price: 8 Annas.

MYSORE

A REPRINT OF ARTICLES FROM THE

"MYSORE SUPPLEMENT"

OF

"THE HINDU"

BANGALORE:

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT AT THE GOVT. PRESS

1937

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

THE articles appearing in this book are reprinted from the Special Mysore Supplement to THE HINDU of the 23rd October 1936. Government are indebted to the Editor of THE HINDU for his courtesy and readiness in permitting the reprint of the articles in book form.

B. T. KESAVIENGAR,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore.

BANGALORE,
Dated 26th April 1937.

CONTENTS.

LIST OF PLATES.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA'S EUROPEAN TOUR.

"A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE."

BY SIR MIRZA ISMAIL, K.C.I.E.

(*Dewan of Mysore.*)

WHILE on tour with His Highness, in the beautiful City of Budapest, I was deeply interested to learn of the proposal to produce this Special Number of THE HINDU to be devoted to Mysore, and was happy to promise such co-operation as was possible from one engaged in travel and sight-seeing—a busy enough process which leaves very little of time or leisure for preparing newspaper articles.

I understand that the appearance of the Special Number will coincide with the return to Mysore of His Highness and his party. It is typical of the enterprise of THE HINDU to look ahead and make its preparations to do justice to an event which I know all Mysoreans will hail with delight—the return to his homeland and people of a beloved Ruler, refreshed by travel and restored to health.

Personally, I warmly appreciate the compliment which THE HINDU desires to pay to His Highness and the State of which he is the distinguished Ruler and servant. I appreciate it all the more because as Dewan I have long been deeply conscious of the goodwill of so fine an example of Indian journalism towards Mysore and her Government. Readers of THE HINDU in Mysore will, I know, share with me in a testimony of the gratitude felt by all towards a newspaper which has rendered much valuable service to us and upon which we look as a good friend. I hope this Special Number will prove a great success.

It is now common knowledge that the tour of Europe undertaken by His Highness the Maharaja, was almost entirely for



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

H. H. THE MAHARAJA AND STAFF AT CROYDON JUST BEFORE THEY FLEW TO BERLIN.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

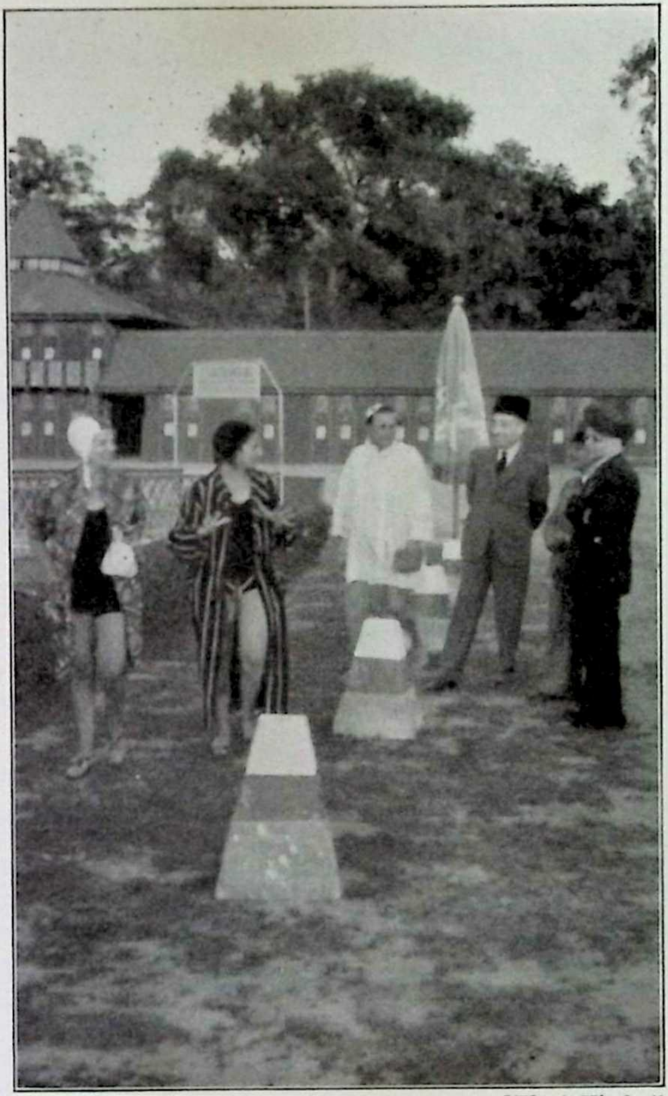
THE MAHARAJA AUTOGRAPHING AT BUDAPEST.

reasons associated with his health. The strain imposed upon His Highness by long years of unceasing devotion to the interests of his country and his people has always been heavy. It is well known that he never spared himself, and that the ever-widening circle of his keen interest in affairs that concerned the development of Mysore and the prosperity and happiness of her people, must inevitably react upon his health. Rarely has the Ruler of a great State borne with such fortitude the cares and responsibilities of his high position, or denied himself so completely long holidays and respites from his princely tasks. Even on so robust and so well-preserved a constitution as that of His Highness the strain was bound to tell, and the moment came when it was essential for the Maharaja to seek in travel, in new scenes and experiences, the recuperative and restorative agencies to renew his health and strength.

The people of Mysore will rejoice with me that the tour from which His Highness has now returned has done for him all that was fervently hoped. I am happy to say that his health has considerably benefited from it. The visit to the United Kingdom and other countries of Europe has restored his energy and rekindled that deep interest which he has always felt for human affairs.

Of the tour itself there is no need, perhaps, to say very much. The cablegrams concerning the movements of His Highness; the press reports, and above all the photographs of incidents during the tour, have told the story of a warm welcome everywhere. The evidence of our own eyes and experiences has confirmed what the London Correspondent of THE HINDU said in one of his earliest dispatches, that seldom has the visit of an Indian Prince to London aroused so much interest as that occasioned by the first journey made by the Ruler of Mysore to the Heart of the Empire.

As the tour undertaken by His Highness was quite unofficial, there were no great and impressive ceremonies to be recorded,



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

H. H. THE MAHARAJA AND THE DEWAN AT THE SWIMMING POOL ON ST. MARGARET ISLAND AT BUDAPEST.

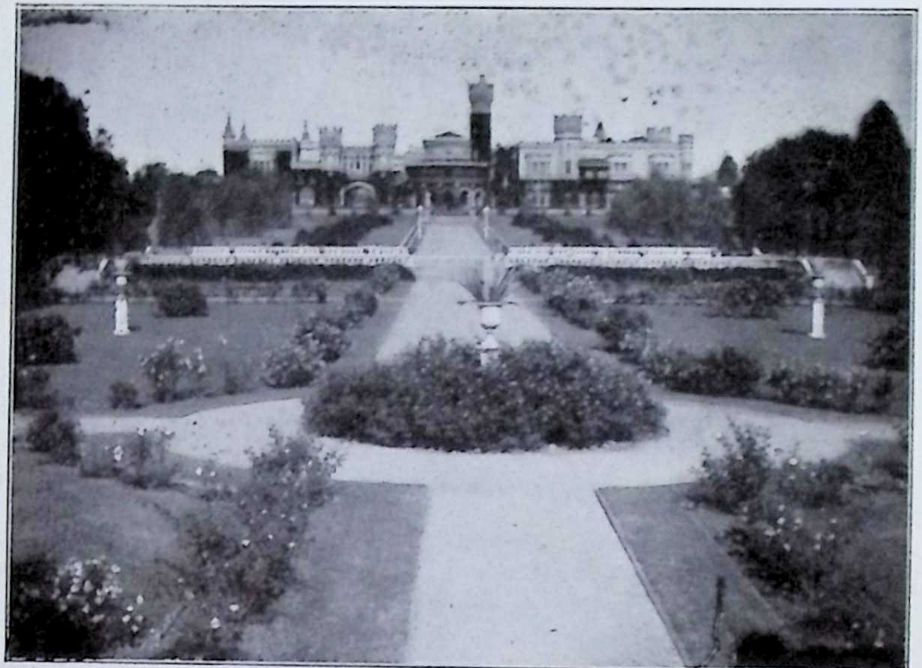


Photo by] BANGALORE PALACE—THE GARDENS. [*Palace Studio.*

The Palace grounds are beautifully laid out with shrubberies, fountains and pleasant walks which form an attractive feature of the Palace.

or described again in detail. At the same time the sincerity and depth of the welcome accorded everywhere to His Highness, particularly in England and Germany, gave him lasting pleasure and happiness. It was the desire in certain countries to do him more formal honour by way of official receptions, but offers in this direction were gratefully received but nevertheless declined for reasons which can well be appreciated. The insistence upon the private nature of the tour did not, however, prevent the authorities in every country, every city, every town, from extending to His Highness the most respectful and warm-hearted greetings. They did everything possible to cater to his keen desire to see for himself every feature of life and public activity in lands he had always been anxious to visit.

I may sum up by saying that it has all been a wonderful experience and one, I am more than happy to say, His Highness has personally enjoyed with immense zest. He returns home—home to the land he loves and the people for whose well-being he lives and works—with gladness in his heart and thanks to God, for the joy of this great experience and the safe journey back to his beloved Mysore.

NINE NIGHTS OF WORSHIP.

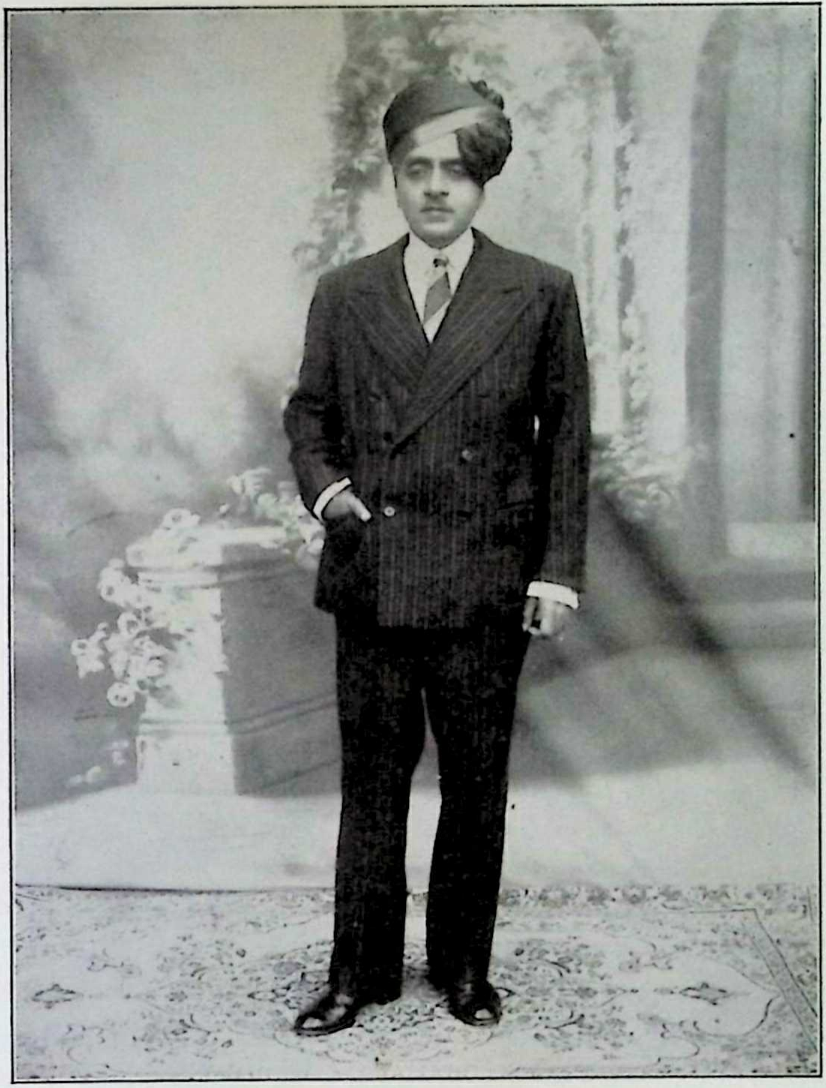
THE DASARA IN MYSORE.

BY *Rao Sahib* C. HAYAVADANA RAO.

THE Dasara festival held in Mysore has a history that goes back into antiquity. Before detailing the circumstances which have combined to make it so famous, it is necessary to clearly explain the term *Dasara*, and why this festival bears this particular name. *Dasara*, more correctly *Dasahara*, means the tenth day (from Sanskrit *dasa*, ten and *ahan*, a day, more especially a sacrificial or festival day). The tenth day commemorated in the name is the day which concludes the nine nights' feast called *Navaratri*. The Dasara day, accordingly, is the day which completes the nine nights of worship, prayer and devotion which are kept up on the occasion of the Navaratri feast. The festival of Dasara, it is needful to add, falls on the tenth day of the bright fortnight of Asvina (Asvayuja Suddha), the first nine days of that month being nine days forming the Navaratri festival. These nine days are held sacred to Durga, while the tenth day—Dasara—is devoted to the concluding feast in honour of the same Goddess.

VEDIC ORIGINS.

The festival was probably in early days connected with Indra, the greatest of the Vedic gods, who is spoken of as the friend of Vishnu and in some hymns of the Rig Veda as the instrument of Vishnu. The worship of Indra was connected with the copious supply of rain at the proper times, with abundance of harvest, with the increase of virtue and morality, with prosperity and happiness for the common people and for those who were above them as their superiors and leaders.



HIS HIGHNESS THE YUVARAJA OF MYSORE.



PRINCE JAYACHAMARAJA WADIYAR.

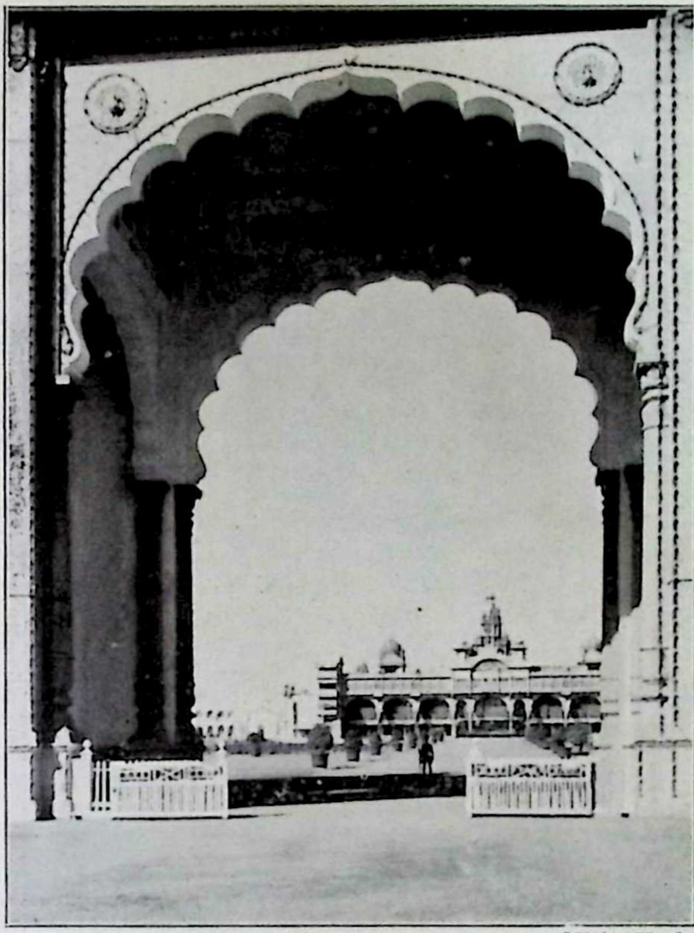


Photo by] MYSORE—THE PALACE. [*Fritz Henle.*

This noble structure, 145 feet high, is built of many varieties of stone and took fourteen years to complete. From top to bottom its surface is adorned with rich sculptures of the very best class of Indian art.

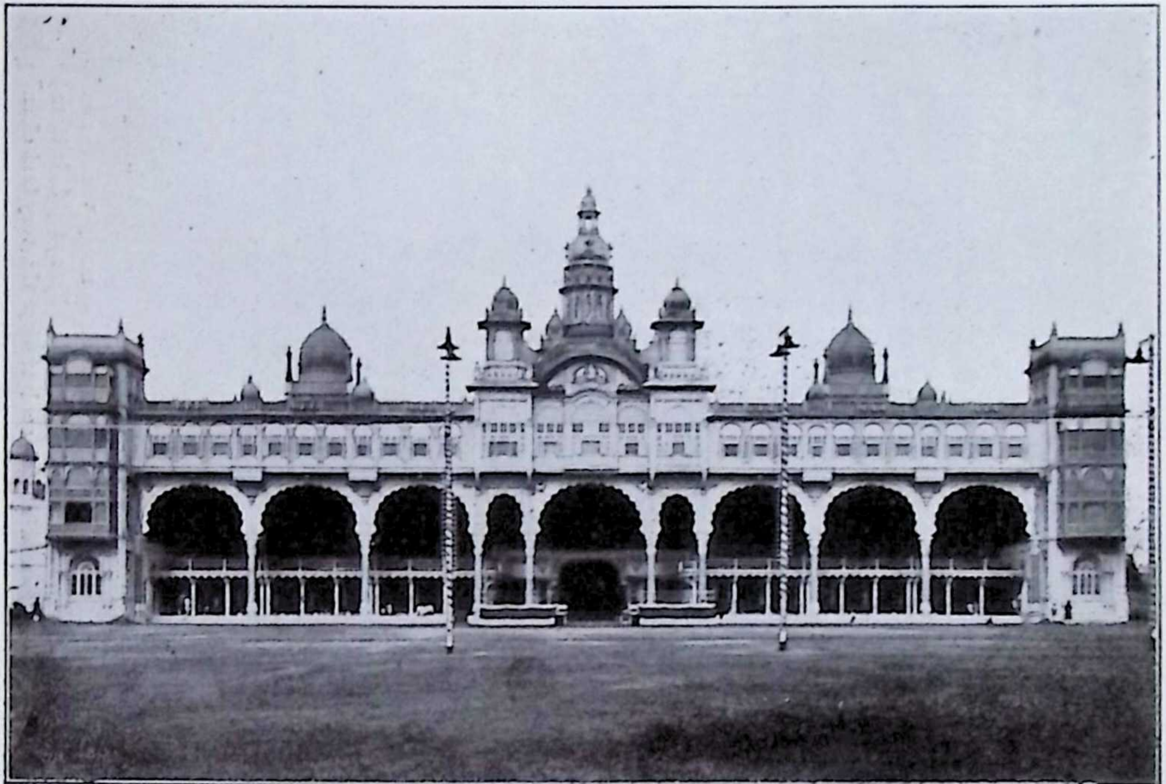


Photo by] NEARER VIEW OF THE PALACE. [*Palace Studio.*

The carvings in stone, wood and ivory in the interior of the Palace are rich in patterns and varied in design. Some of the doors are made entirely of silver and some in old ivory, carved in wonderful little panels with lively figure subjects.

12

Some remarkable features of the festival celebrated to-day in Mysore seem to support its connection with the worship of Indra. The *puja* offered to the State Horse, the State Elephant, and the State Carriage represents, it is said, the respect due to be paid to Indra's horse called *Uchchaissravas*, Indra's elephant (the beautiful and victorious *Airavatha*) and Indra's chariot (commonly known as *Devaratha*). And it is likewise said that the *puja* offered to the Throne has reference to Indra's throne called *Pushkaramalini*, which drives away the weakness of old age, fatigue and fear. Similarly, the *puja* offered to the State Arms is said to symbolize the respect due to the great weapons of Indra. And the respect shown to the State Cow is held to signify, it is said, the veneration due to Indra's cow (*Surabhi*), the divine, beautiful and gentle mother of all cows (*Gavam Matah*). Thus, it is seen, that the king in offering *puja* to these different objects connected with the sovereignty of Indra is returning thanks to him for his invaluable and meritorious services to mankind.

In Mysore, the festival has been celebrated from time immemorial, in the most religious manner. The ruler may be rightly said to have set the example in this connection to his subjects. The ceremony as observed in Mysore follows the injunctions laid down in the various sacred texts bearing on the subject. These, it may be stated, are mostly found in the *Devi-Bhagavata* and a number of *Puranas* among which may be included the *Padma-Purana*, the *Bhavishyottara-Purana*, the *Matsya-Purana*, the *Saura-Purana* and the *Nirnaya-Sindhu*.

THE CEREMONIES.

In the Mysore Royal Family, the following is the order in which the various events connected with the festival come off :-

On the morning of Asvayuja Suddha 1, after *prarthana* (invocation) offered to the family tutelary deity Sri Chamundesvari, *mangalasnana* (consecrated oil bath) takes place. Next, *puja*

is offered to Ganesha; then follows the *Kankana-dharana*, or the investing of the silken thread, the same being tied round the wrist of the right hand. This is followed by the *puja* on the *Sejje*, the Durbar Hall, to the *Navagrahas* (or the nine planets); then *puja* to the Royal Throne, and the ceremony of formally mounting on it after passing round it thrice. The State Sword, which is daily worshipped during the nine days in the inner sanctum of the Palace, is brought out from there and placed beside His Highness the Maharaja while on the Throne during the Durbar on the *Sejje*. Here the offerings sent by the principal *Mutts* are tendered to His Highness; these are followed by the honours sent by different temples; and these again by the presentation by select Brahman priests of consecrated cocoanuts and coloured rice. Then *muzre* and *nazar* are offered by the assembled high State officers led by the Dewan and the prominent citizens and merchants. This over, the assembled State and Household troops fire *feu-de-joie* from the maidan below. Next, the State elephant and the State Horse offer obeisance and retire. The durbaris are then garlanded and offered betel and nuts. They then offer *muzre* in batches and quit the hall. Shortly after, royal ladies from the inner apartments enter and soon retire. The durbaris next march past, one by one in regular order, before the Throne and obtain floral gifts at His Highness' hands. His Highness next dismounts from the Throne and retires into the inner sanctum in the Palace. Here special worship is offered in Vedic form to Sri Chamundesvari, the family Goddess, by day and night, with recitations from the sacred *Puranas* during the whole period of nine days. His Highness takes part in this worship daily with all due reverence.

In the evening--of the first day—His Highness holds a Durbar on the *Sejje* at about 7 P.M. After a floral offering, he mounts the Throne and receives *muzre* from the assembled durbaris. Wrestling by *jettis* and interesting feats of arms,

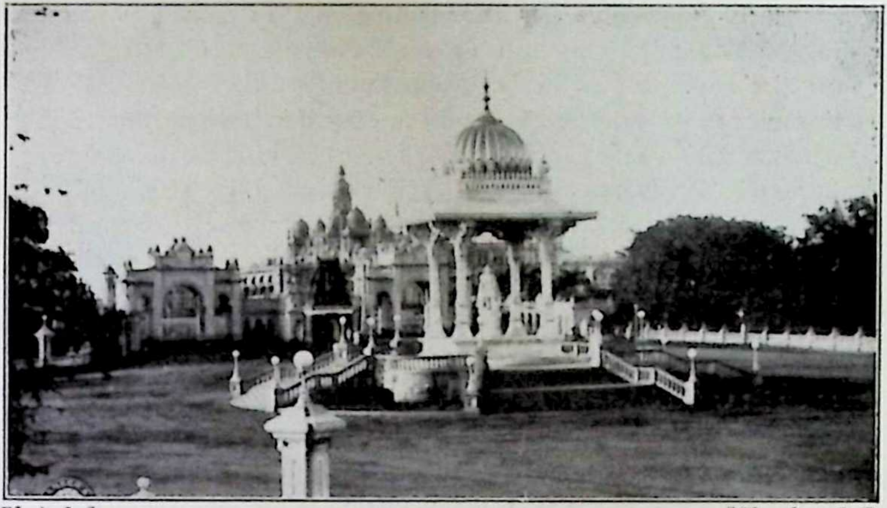


Photo by] MYSORE—STATUE SQUARE. [*Shankar & Co.*

An exquisite marble statue of the late Maharaja stands beneath the canopy. Its position in the centre of the crossing of four broad thoroughfares with the Palace and its lovely doorways in the background lends it a pleasing picturesqueness.

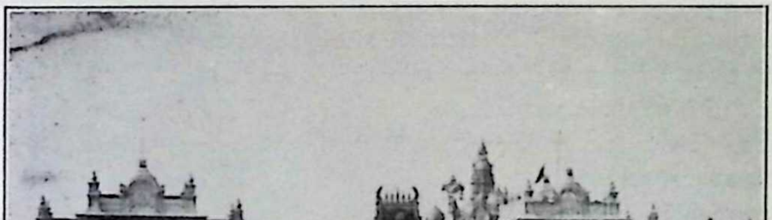


Photo by] [*Shankar & Co.*

MYSORE—NORTH GATEWAY OF THE PALACE.

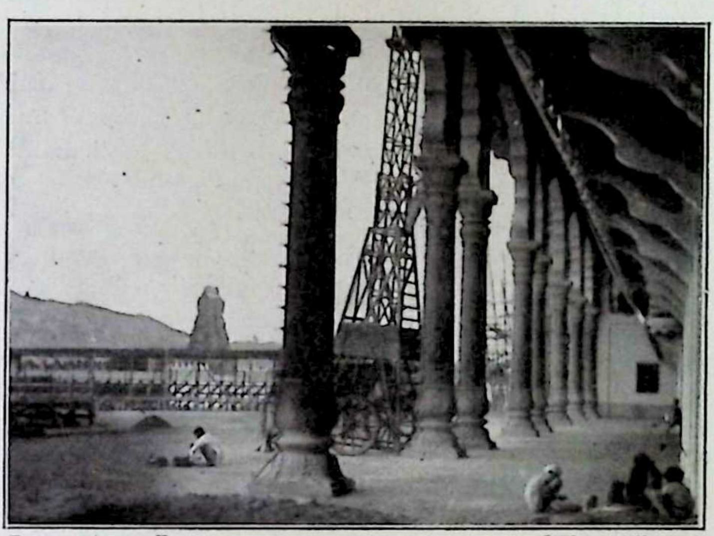


Photo by] [*Shankar & Co.*

MYSORE—THE JUBILEE CLOCK TOWER.

It was set up by the Palace officials to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of His Highness's reign, August 8, 1927.

etc., are next witnessed in the maidan below, from where the State Elephant and Horse offer due obeisance. From the second to the eighth day inclusive, the *Sejje* Durbar takes place only in the evenings, while all religious ceremonies take place in the inner sanctum. On the seventh day, His Highness performs the Saraswati puja in the inner sanctum. On



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

Chamundi Hill as seen through the graceful columns of the Palace. Electricians are busy fixing lamps for the Dasara Exhibitions.

the eighth day, known as the *Kalaratri*, the ceremony of Mahishasuramardini is observed, *i.e.*, the destruction of the demon Mahishasura by the Goddess is celebrated in accordance with the prescribed rites in the night.

On the ninth day comes off the worship of *Ayudhas* or implements of every kind used. Selected arms and accoutrements, the State Elephant and the State Horse are

offered *puja*. Lakshmidevi, the Goddess of wealth, is also worshipped on this day by His Highness. On this day, further, the *Chandi-homam*, a great sacrifice in honour of Chandi, is performed. Immediately this is over, His Highness divests himself of the *kankana*, the silken thread at his right wrist. With this, the vow taken to carry through the celebration is deemed successfully over. In the evening, His Highness is visited by the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore and other European guests, who join the Durbar and retire after witnessing the wrestling and other amusements in the maidan in front of the Palace which is, by the way, a sea of human faces and a grand sight, resplendent with lights, to behold.

THE PROCESSION.

On the morning of the tenth day, called Vijayadasami day, the Day of Victory, immediately after *puja* is offered to the State Arms, they are placed in the State Palanquin and taken in procession to the Banni Mantap, His Highness leading the procession, for a short length, on the State Horse. He returns in a palanquin, and after witnessing the wrestling matches in progress, retires. In the afternoon, at about 4 P.M., the Royal Procession starts from the Palace with His Highness the Maharaja, accompanied by H. H. the Yuvaraja and Prince Jayachamarajendra Wodeyar, mounted on the *ambari* on the procession elephant and proceeds through the bazaar, to the Banni Mantap. There His Highness reviews the assembled troops and offers puja in a special pavilion to the *Sami tree*, hears the Palace genealogical list read out to him by one of the officers attending on the occasion and distributes offerings of consecrated Banni leaves to the assembled officers of the State, headed by the Dewan. He then leads back the Royal Arms and having put them in the State Palanquin, mounts on the elephant again and returns to the Palace. He next holds a short Durbar there and then retires. This concludes the



Photo by] THE ROYAL PROCESSION ON THE LAST DAY OF THE DASARA. [*Palace Studio.*

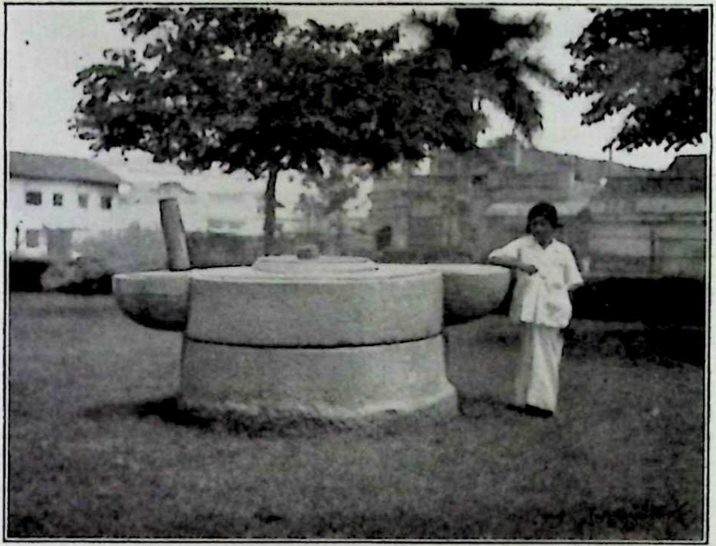


Photo by] [*F. A. Hamilton.*

MYSORE—THE GUEST HOUSE KNOWN AS LALITHA MAHAL.

The building of this Royal Guest House was taken up in 1921 and completed in 1929. Its grounds are well laid out and the panoramic views to which it serves as a grandstand make it one of the most attractive sights of the City of Mysore. Its Italian marble staircase and its Ball Room with spring floor are special features of the Mahal.

celebration of the festival. During its progress, thousands are fed and special worship is offered in all the temples in Mysore City and the State generally.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

A curiosity at the Jagan Mohan Palace is this huge grinding stone. Its size could be compared with the boy standing beside it.

Great Social Gathering.

The social side of the festival has been greatly developed in recent years, especially since His Highness Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV, the present Maharaja, came to the throne. The Durbars he holds during this period add to the dignity of the occasion. Their significance is not to be missed. They offer opportunity for king and subject to meet. During some years past, a great exhibition of industrial products has also been added with the double object of giving a push to trade and industries and to make people acquire the habit of patronising locally

manufactured goods. This exhibition has helped to provide the much-required diversion, on the social side, to the large numbers of visitors who are attracted to Mysore during the Dasara season. The City too, during the season, is one mass of humanity, peaceful and orderly, though always on the move, enjoying the sights and the scenery all round. A city like this that is at unity in itself is twice blessed, for it pleases the heart while it satisfies the head.



Photo by] [*Shankar & Co.*

MYSORE—THE NISHAD BAGH OR "PLEASURE GARDENS."

Significance of Dasara.

The unique character of this festival is more clearly seen when it is realized that religious heads and Royal personages are to observe it with due solemnity during the ten days it lasts not only for their own sake but also for the sake of those committed to their charge. The responsibility resting on Royal personages has been, if anything, even greater, because of the special duties devolving on them as Rulers over their subjects. The Ruler indeed, is described as the head of society and the protector of religion and in his executive capacity he

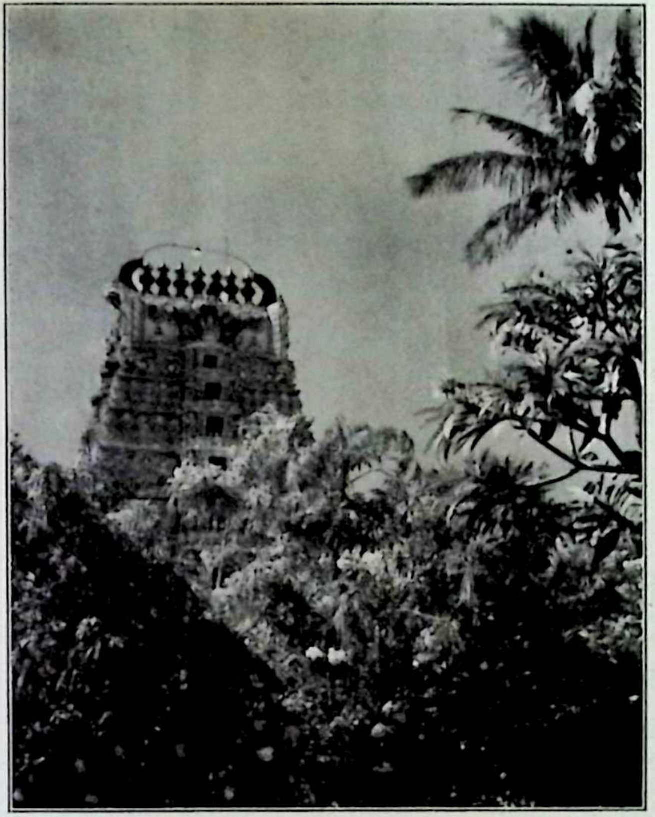


Photo by] [*Fritz Henle.*

TEMPLE TOWER ON CHAMUNDI HILL.

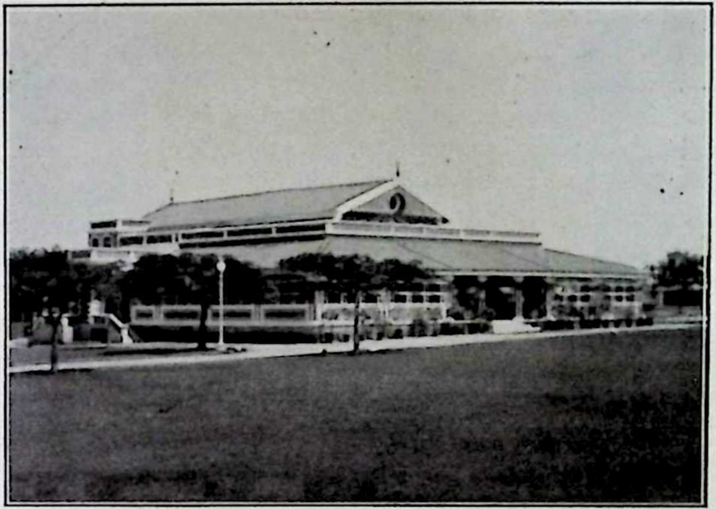
Two miles away from Mysore is a rocky hill which takes its name from the goddess Chamundi, who, as the tutelary deity of the Mysore Maharajas, is worshipped in a temple on the summit. Wide spiral roads lead to the top of the hill which gives a commanding view of the city beneath, which when illuminated with electric lights at night on festive occasions, offers the spectacle of a fairy city which the tourist can never forget.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

THE GOPURAM AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE TEMPLE AT SERINGAPATAM.

is held to guide the religious and moral life of the people. No Hindu festival celebrated in India as a whole brings out this aspect of a Ruler's duty as the Dasara does. The Ruler in celebrating it prays for the people; he prays with them and he invokes the blessings of God for them and their happiness and prosperity during the days it lasts.



By courtesy of] RACE CLUB, MYSORE. [*The "Hindu."*

LINK WITH VIJAYANAGAR DYNASTY.

During the days of Hindu supremacy in the South represented by the Vijayanagar dynasty of kings (14th to 16th centuries A.D.), occasion appears to have been taken to give even a political turn to the festival, it being made the occasion for the tributary chiefs, provincial governors, and collectors of revenue repairing to the king's capital and rendering homage, paying the tributes due, and generally helping towards the smooth governance of the kingdom. The Mysore kings, who inherited these traditions, as the successors of the Vijayanagar kings in

this part of South India, have probably been observing the feast in its most highly developed form. The truth of this remark will be evident when we compare what takes place to-day at Mysore during the period this festival lasts, with what has come down to us as contemporary accounts of the festival as it was celebrated during the palmiest days of Vijayanagar rule. It is possibly true that the festival has been popularised beyond all calculation by this methodic observance of it through the ages, so that even Muhammadans seem to have unconsciously as it were, taken to it, as observed by the Abbe Dubois, in his writings. The prominent position occupied by the sovereign in it in Mysore is also, perhaps, due to the close connection that existed between it and the old Vijayanagar kings quite apart from the religious aspect, which makes his position in it so important.

Mysore's National Festival.

However this may be, there is hardly any doubt that the strict observance of the festival in Mysore by the ruling kings has contributed not a little to the prominence it gets as one of the greater national festivals observed in the State. Here, the king is the pivot round which the festival moves. He takes the vow for performing it; he observes the fast; he gives up his personal comforts and even neglects his personal appearance; he goes through the ritualism that forms part of it; and he welcomes the people that foregather at his palace every evening to obtain his blessings in the shape of floral offerings taken from under the feet of the Goddess. He offers worship both for himself and for his subjects; both for his own family and for the groups of families that go to make up his kingdom; and he obtains the blessings of the Devi both for himself and for those who look to him for protection. *Na Vishnuh Prithivipatih*; there is no king without (the attribute of) Vishnu being in him. That is, the king represents his subjects before

God. This is the Sakti represented by Goddess, working in the invisible world, and made to subserve human ends. It is the Supreme Spirit under whose providence humanity moves and has its being that is invoked by king, priest and subject at this great feast and it is that Supreme Spirit that is prayed

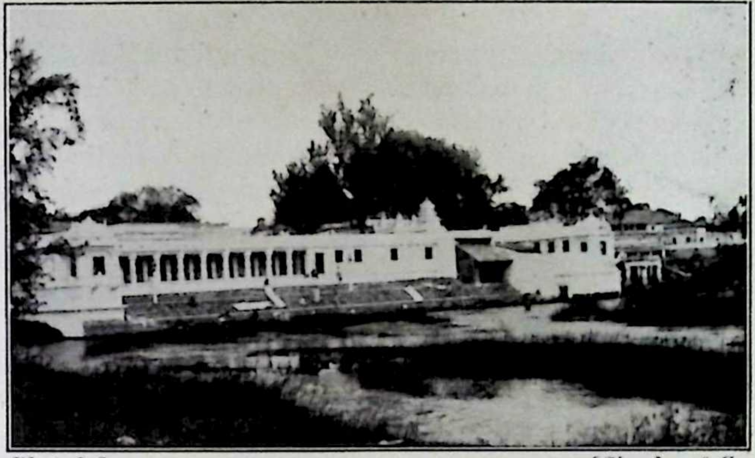


Photo by] [*Shankar & Co.*

PASCHIMAVAHINI—THE BATHING GHAT.

to and adored, for the uninterrupted progress of humanity during the period it lasts. The victory is signified by the festivities of the tenth day, fittingly styled the Day of Victory—the victory of man over the baser elements, of knowledge over ignorance and of spirit over matter. That is the significance of the Dasara, a festival that typifies India's steadfast belief in the eternality of Dharma.

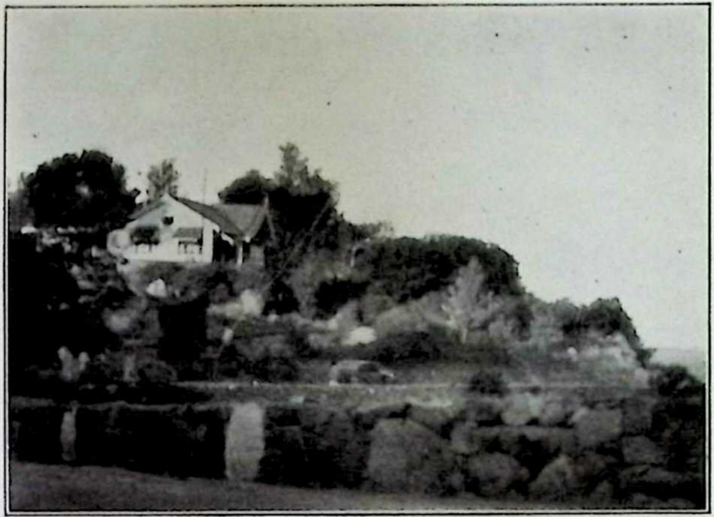
LOVELY LALITHADRIPUR.

MYSORE'S MODEL VILLAGE.

By A. Srinivasa Rao.

"THIS is a perfectly marvellous village quite different from any that I have seen before" remarked a distinguished lady from England when she visited Lalithadripur. The creation of this model village is the outcome of the noble sentiment of His Highness the Maharaja graciously announced in the message to his people on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of his reign. "It is my earnest desire that this spirit of brotherhood should be extended to the continuous improvement of the conditions of those who are less fortunate than ourselves." Sir Joseph Bhore when he made a special visit to Lalithadripur noted that "it would have been easy with a generous expenditure of money to have raised a 'model village' in a very short time. Instead, the villagers have been taught the value of self-help and dignity of personal effort." The methods adopted to build up this model village are well worth a study.

The old village Sakkahalli near Mysore situated in a valley with its narrow lanes, crowded and ill-ventilated houses where cattle and men lived together under one roof, drew the benign attention of His Highness. He was graciously pleased to advance about Rs. 45,000 to the local Co-operative Society for building purposes. The people having humbly accepted this grace put forth their best energies and contributed their mite through co-operative efforts to create the new village. Sakkahalli stands to-day transformed into "Lovely Lalithadripur with cleanly cut streets, model houses, electric lights, unfailing water supply and decent sanitation."



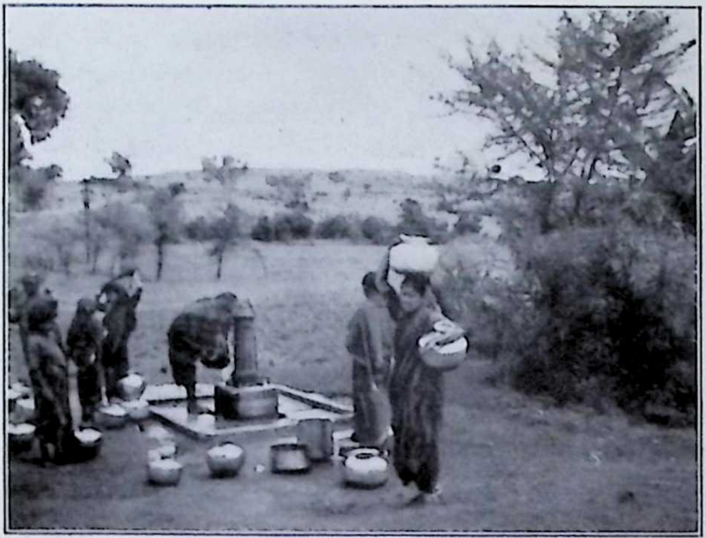
By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

Lalithadri on top of the Chamundi Hill is a favourite halting place for H. H. the Maharaja. Lalithadripur lies just below this part of the hill.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

A view of Lalithadripur taken from Lalithadri on Chamundi Hill.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

One of the amenities of Lalithadripur is a water tank.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

A street in Lalithadripur. It is lit by electricity at night.

A Lesson in Co-operation.

Lalithadripur is a model not merely for its decent outside but is an example to be copied in other respects also. As is well recognised, economic regeneration should precede social. When the villager is debt-ridden and poverty stricken, no improvement can be effected in his well-being. Neither can he enjoy the amenities of life that may be created for him. Attempts are made in abundance elsewhere to discharge the prior debts of the villagers. But here is an instance to illustrate what co-operation can do. It is not a section of the village population that is touched by the Co-operative Society here but every family whether of caste Hindus or Adi-Karnatakas is represented in the Society. Here again the kindly hand of His Highness was stretched for redeeming the prior debts of the members. A sum of Rs. 15,000 was advanced at 5 per cent. The Co-operative Society carried out successfully the roll of the Agent for the conciliation of debts due to outside sowcars. It not only got remission of interest to the extent of about Rs. 6,000 but also attracted deposits of an equal sum from those very creditors. Prior debts have been discharged to the extent of Rs. 26,000. Not only is the villager freed from the burden of debt but also, it is more difficult, he is helped to reduce his debts in the Society.

Nearness to Mysore affords ample opportunities for raiyats to make extra income. What is required is an organisation to consolidate their resources and regulate their income. In Lalithadripur they are fortunate in having such an organisation. Arrangements are made for the joint supply of sand and other materials for the use of the Municipality and the Palace. Road contracts are secured for them. The total amount including the contractor's profit are distributed among all the workers in proportion to the quantity of work put in by each.

MILK SUPPLY TO MYSORE.

A co-operative concern is organised to collect milk in the village and sell the same in Mysore. The consumer has the advantage of pure unadulterated milk at his doors while the producer is saved the trouble of carrying milk and its products to Mysore. Women who were generally engaged in this business are now free to look after their homes and their cattle. The Society, which collects the bills and distributes the cost of milk supplied among the members, has now the advantage of regulating his expenditure and collecting towards his dues in the Society. Within the ten months of its existence, it has sold 15,000 seers of milk and collected Rs. 1,300 for its dues.

While grain banks have failed elsewhere, it is a consolation to find the one in Lalithadripur doing very useful work. It has now a total stock of 100 pallas of jola, the staple grain. The villagers do not now resort to outside grain merchants for loans when their stock at home exhausts but borrow from the bank when needy and repay the same during the next harvest.

Thus, through co-operative methods, they have secured tangible benefits for themselves. The Co-operative Society has materially helped in their social and general well-being. Out of the net profits, funds have been created for the formation of a library, for carrying on village improvement works, for affording medical aid to the villagers and for furthering adult education. In honour of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of His Highness a fund was created and replenished every year which is earmarked for educational advancement of the village.

The villagers have the advantage of Rama Mandiram where *harikathas* are got up occasionally. Reading classes are organised to spread knowledge among the adults. Series of lectures are delivered on various subjects of interest. Health



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

The well-to-do farmer and his family at Lalithadripur.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

In the courtyard of a villager's house. Note the modern steel plough the farmer is cleaning.

pamphlets are read to them with the illustrations published by the Health Department.

Harijan Uplift.

There is a good number of Adi-Karnataka families in the village. They are provided all the facilities afforded to other Hindus. Their boys are admitted to the general school. The elders partake in the *bhajanas* and Ramothsavam celebrations in the village. To inculcate habits of cleanliness, arrangements are made to give bath to their boys and dress is supplied to them. Persistent efforts are made to persuade them to give up drinking. Some of them have completely abstained from drinking. The arrangement for the sale of toddy in the village which was in existence for a long time is now discontinued. Their houses are in no way inferior to others, while a few are even better.

The villagers look to the cleanliness of the village. Roads are repaired by them by means of weekly labour. Avenues are planted by them. The Society gives prizes to those who keep their houses and their surroundings tidy.

More than all, there is a Panchayat established representing the different communities in the village for hearing and settling amicably all the minor differences and disputes. The result is very satisfactory in so far as it has reduced the number of cases taken to the criminal and civil courts almost to nothing. A distinguished visitor has remarked that "social workers will learn a great deal from this village."

May His Highness enjoy long life, health and prosperity. May the noble attempts made in the village be copied elsewhere in the Model State of Mysore. The names of the enthusiastic workers in the cause of this rural uplift will be ever remembered with gratitude by the villagers.

SIR MIRZA ISMAIL.

A PEN PICTURE.

By Adi K. Sett, F.R.G.S., F.R.S.A.

TALL, slim in immaculate clothes, courteous and kind to one and all and generous to a fault—such is Sir Mirza Ismail, the popular Dewan of Mysore State. The very first impression of the Dewan which a stranger or a visitor obtains is that of his great personal charm. With his courtesy and kindness, he casts a magnetic spell over a visitor. With this great virtue is coupled his patience. I have not yet seen him lose his temper!

Sir Mirza's voice is most melodious and eminently suited for public speaking. As the Dewan of a premier State, he has to make numerous speeches during the space of a month. It is a real pleasure to listen to Sir Mirza at a public function: every word he utters is clearly audible, even to the farthest extremes of a hall.

Sir Mirza entered the public service of his State thirty-one years back. In May 1905, he was an Assistant Superintendent of Police, and in May 1926, the Dewan of Mysore. Naturally, he had experience of the many departments of the State and obtained a solid foundation in the art of statecraft. In 1910, Sir Mirza was appointed Assistant Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore—a responsible appointment. Four years later, he was elevated to the post of Huzur Secretary and, in 1923, he became the Private Secretary. Three years after, he was at the head of the administration.

The Dewan rises very early every morning and goes out on a strenuous walk or a ride. Then begins his hard work for the day at his residential office: interviews with numerous callers, by appointment or otherwise, opening of his personal

letters (which form a huge pile on his table every morning and every letter is first read by him); the perusal of official files and documents. All this work carries him up to midday or past that time. After a simple meal, he indulges in a short respite. Before 3, he is at his office at the Secretariat and again more interviews, mostly with the heads of various departments and more files and documents. Let it here be said that all the files of the several public departments pass before the Dewan for his final orders. After work at the Public Offices, there are very often many social obligations for the Dewan to fulfil.

Sir Mirza Ismail makes a perfect host. He takes keen interest and great pains for the comfort and happiness of his guests, looking into every little detail. It is the same at his lunch, dinner or afternoon garden parties. The arrangement at table, the decorations and flowers, the menu—all receive his particular attention. Whenever I see him in his beautiful garden, surrounded by the young people of his family and his lovely dogs, he gives me the impression of an ideal country gentleman.

Building Beautiful Cities.

In addition to being an aesthete, Sir Mirza is also an artist. Deeply interested in architecture, it is mainly due to him that beautiful buildings are now seen in Bangalore and Mysore. Those who had seen these cities a decade back will mark the tremendous change which has come over them. Roads are broadened and well tarred, old buildings demolished and new, neat houses take their place; at regular intervals, in these cities, you come across avenues and boulevards, small parks, circles, squares and fountains and flood-lights at night—all due to the indefatigable and personal interest of the Dewan. Sir Mirza will always be remembered by generations to come for his design and lay-out of the gardens of Brindavan at Krishnarajsagar, Mysore. It was his idea to flood-light the Fairy



SIR MIRZA ISMAIL, K.C.I.E.
Dewan of Mysore.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

THE GRANDSON OF SIR M. ISMAIL.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

CARLTON HOUSE.

The Official Residence of the Dewan, commanding a glorious view of the Race Course.

Fountains with various colours and the effect which he has produced is dynamic and unforgettable.

Very broad-minded and with high ideals, Sir Mirza looks upon life with an open outlook. He has great religious tolerance and has as much respect for other faiths as he has for his own. In a recent letter to the Dewan, His Holiness the Jagadguru of Sringeri says that ". . . it is the good fortune of the State that it is guided by a Dewan inspired by a lofty idealism at a time when narrow parochialism, provincialism, communalism and international anarchy are rampant in the world. . . ."

The Human Touch.

The success of Sir Mirza's regime lies in the fact that he takes a tremendous amount of personal interest in all that pertains to the happiness and welfare of the State. He is one of the few administrators in India who have paid much attention to rural development. Very often, early in the morning, accompanied by his personal suite and the heads of the departments concerned, the Dewan drives out a considerable distance to inspect towns or villages. Meticulous orders for the tidying up of roads and buildings are given. Anything that is ugly always arrests the Dewan's eye and the remedy is proposed. During such outings, a strenuous programme is in store for him: opening institutions, hospitals or *chatrams* or laying a foundation stone, or receiving important local officials. Thousands of people line the route to catch a glimpse of their popular Dewan. While inspecting a town, the Dewan takes a walk and at such times he is literally mobbed by the enthusiastic crowds. At regular intervals, the people offer him fruits and garlands, which he later on personally distributes to the children of the poor. It is this human touch which adds to the great personal charm of Sir Mirza.

Very recently, the Dewan was the recipient of the K.C.I.E. This was in recognition of his valuable services to his State and particularly for the prominent part he played at the three Round Table Conferences in London. At the Second Conference, he had the honour of representing, in addition to his own State, several leading South Indian States, such as Cochin, Travancore and Pudukottah.

Industrial Schemes.

The Dewan's concern to develop the resources of his State is well known. He realises that the happiness and prosperity of Mysore depends a good deal on her industries. The Silk Factory at Mysore which was established some time back is making great strides and Mysore silk saris, handkerchiefs, and neckties are becoming famous throughout India. But for the dumping of Japanese and Italian silk in India, Mysore's pace would have been more rapid. But even as it is, due to the efforts of Sir Mirza, Mysore is the largest producer of silk in India. Sir Mirza also founded at Bangalore, the Porcelain Factory (where insulators are mostly made and also some pretty ornaments), the Lac Factory (where different kinds of polish and sealing wax are manufactured), the Industrial Laboratory (where numerous medicines are turned out according to British pharmacopœia standards), and the Government Electric Factory where switches, metal lamp-shades, flood-lights and bakelite articles are made. At present, the great commercial development of coffee and sandalwood, which has been achieved, is due to the far-sightedness of the Dewan. His great wish is to make his State economically as self-contained and self-reliant as possible. With this view, several new industries will most likely be introduced. A steel plant is in process of construction at the Iron Works at Bhadravati. A cement plant and a paper mill as well as a factory for manufacturing electric light bulbs are under consideration.

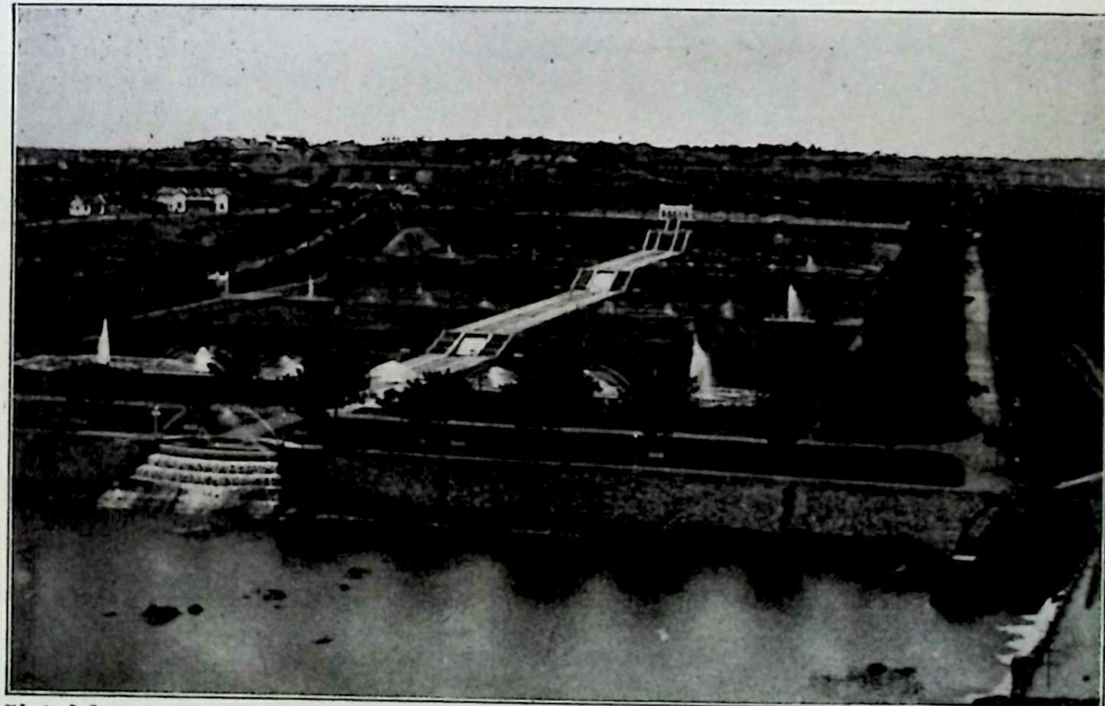


Photo by] A PANORAMIC VIEW OF BRINDAVAN FROM THE NORTH. [*N. S. Raj.*

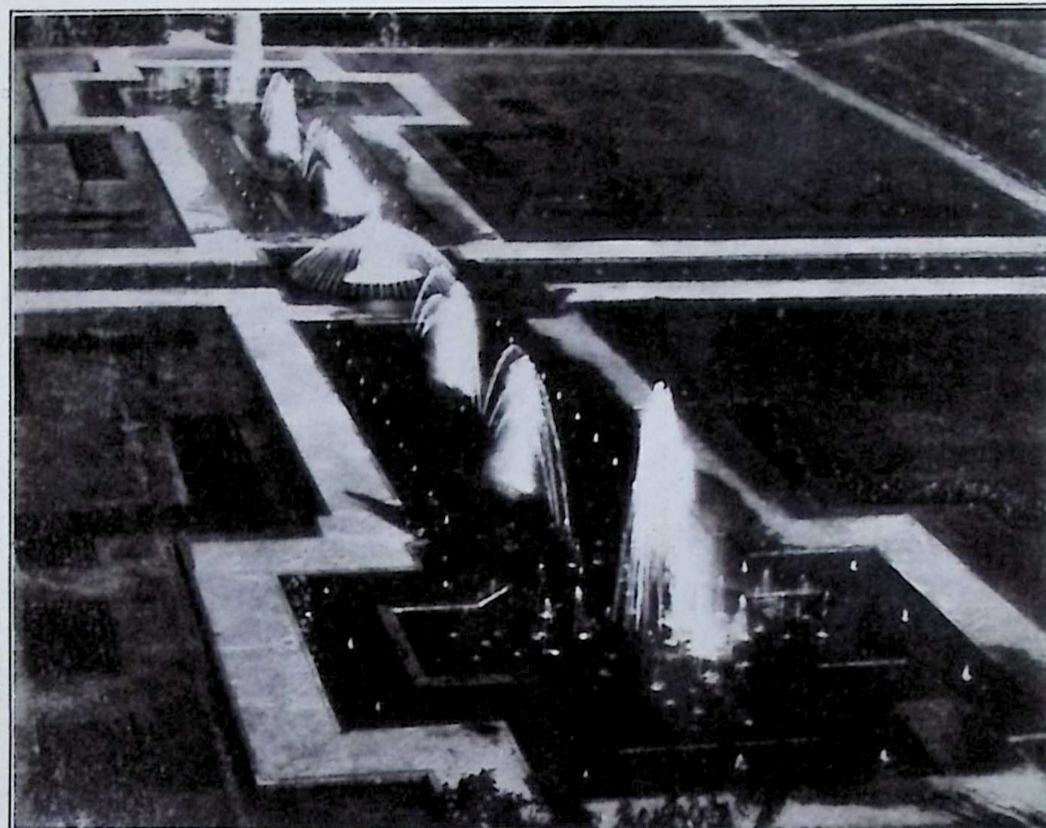


Photo by] THE FASCINATING FOUNTAINS OF BRINDAVAN. [*N. S. Raj.*

They present a spectacle so beautiful that one cannot easily forget it.

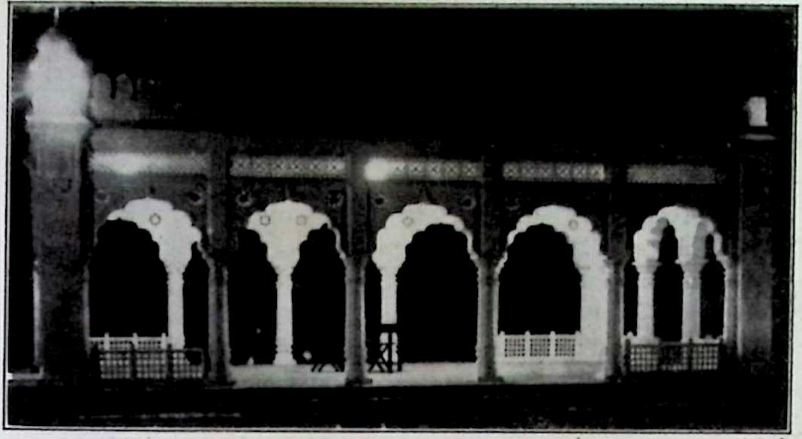


Photo by] THE PAVILION ILLUMINATED. [*N. S. Raj.*

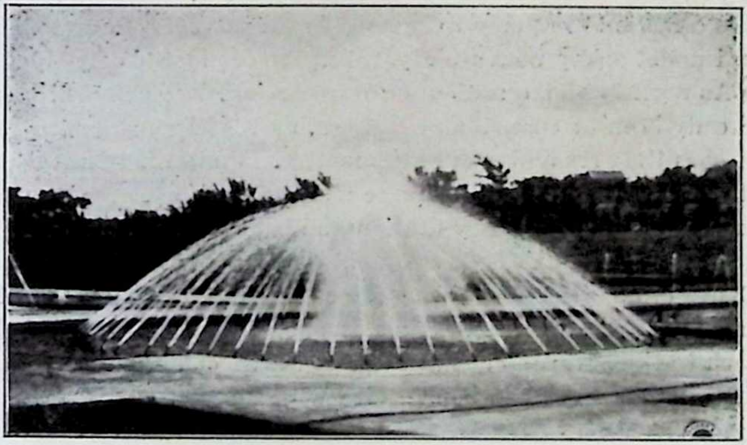


Photo by] ONE OF THE FOUNTAINS. [*Shankar & Co.*

Experiments in the curing of tobacco are also in hand and promise to be successful.

Subsidy and Retrocession.

This article would be incomplete if I did not say a few words about two very important matters which are at present receiving the serious attention of the Dewan and also of the many well-wishers of Mysore—the remission of the subsidy and the retrocession of a part of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore. By a treaty, which was concluded in 1799, between the grandfather of the present Maharaja (who was then a child of only six years) and the East India Company, Mysore was to pay the British a yearly tribute of 24½ lakhs as the price of protection. In 1881, 10½ lakhs were added on in return for certain treaty obligations. Only due to Sir Mirza's agitation over this question with the Central Government, the payment of the latter 10½ lakhs was remitted in 1928. This payment weighs heavily on the finances of the State and retards its progress. Sir Mirza has been strenuously urging the total remission of this payment. His efforts in this direction are likely to succeed in the near future and this will undoubtedly increase Mysore's pace of progress.

As regards the question of retrocession, a good deal has already been discussed and written, so that I need not here discuss the *pros* and *cons* of the matter. Suffice it to say that about thirteen and a half square miles of territory, now known as the Civil and Military Station and belonging to Mysore, is kept by the British Government for cantonment purposes. Bangalore has, however, long since ceased to be a cantonment and Sir Mirza is asking that it should therefore be handed back to the State and he has the best wishes of every Mysorean that his efforts should be attended with success.

REFORM OF LAWS.

SOME SUGGESTIONS.

By Mirle N. Lakshminaranappa, B.A., B.L.
(*Advocate.*)

THE lines of reform in legislation in Mysore are not very dissimilar to those in British India, as the points of similarity of condition in the State with British India are very much more than the points of difference.

The reasons for this are not far to seek. Mysore was directly under the British rule for fifty years till the Rendition. Something of a constitution was given to the State in that period, and the main framework of it is continued till the present day. No doubt, whatever laws were promulgated in British India at that period, did not apply to Mysore automatically, but only such as were introduced into the State under the powers of the Governor-General now consolidated in the shape of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act: that is to say, legislation was being introduced by the Governor-General to the State of Mysore at that period in the same way as he is doing it now for the Assigned Tract of the Civil and Military Station at Bangalore. And in exercising the powers under the Act, he was always having in mind the local conditions that prevailed in the State. Enactments like the Hindu Widows Remarriage Act or the Caste Disabilities Act were not introduced by the Governor-General into the State in spite of some pressure brought to bear upon him for that purpose, because of his deference to local religious susceptibilities. Except for such variations the lines of progress in British India have been generally followed in the State.

All the modifications of the various legislative measures made in British India subsequent to the Rendition made to suit the altered conditions have not been introduced in the State. This was perhaps because of a clause in the Instrument of Transfer by which the previous sanction of the Government of India had to be obtained to interfere with the pre-Rendition laws in any manner whatsoever. No doubt, the Government of India would not be reluctant to grant permission for introducing such amendments into Mysore which they themselves had already brought into force in British India. Still there was always the reluctance to approach the Government of India frequently for changes, unless they were of very great moment. Since this clause in the Treaty has now been abrogated, Mysore is now quite free to deal with the pre-Rendition laws as she chooses. A sufficiently long interval has now elapsed to enable the State to profit by the experience of British India in the actual working of the modifications so that such of them as have met with adverse criticism may be avoided.

No Suits against Government.

There were no provisions in Mysore which gave a remedy to a subject against the Government or their servants through a court of law as in British India—against the Government or of its officers in matters which are covered by the enactments regulating injunctions *mandamus*, *Habeus Corpus*, *certiorari* or even in the matter of ordinary suits against the Government on the same broad basis which exists in British India. There is no provision for a suit against the Government in the United Kingdom. That is because the administration is King's administration and the Sovereign is above the law. He cannot be sued by anybody in his own country where his sway is supreme. In British India, the administration was being carried on by the Company which is now represented by the Secretary of State. Therefore, there is no

difficulty in reconciling the right of a subject to sue the Government with the theory of the absolute supremacy of the King and the subordination of all laws and courts to his sway. From the point of view of abstract doctrine, the English analogy holds good in Mysore. But in practice, it is found unworkable. As mentioned already, quite unlike most of the Indian States, Mysore has a constitution given to her by the British when they were administering the country directly. His Highness rules the country through the Government. The administration is being carried on by the "Government of His Highness." Therefore, the right of suit against the Government could be logically conceded in Mysore. After some agitation, a Regulation allowing suits against Government was enacted in 1923. Its scope is very much more limited than that of similar provision in British India. Only certain classes of suits are allowed and they have got to be filed in the court of the highest original jurisdiction. The resulting hardship is of a twofold character. Litigants have to travel long distances from their homes to go to the principal court of original jurisdiction and with reference to important matters where the grievance is one that borders on a contract but is not based quite on that, there is no right of suit at all. The Government of Mysore are now embarking on big industrial and commercial enterprises. There is no reason why they should have any advantage over private citizens similarly engaged. No doubt, the clash of interest between the Government and the subject is less in Mysore than elsewhere. It is also no doubt true that genuine grievances are rarely left unredressed. Petitioning is a cheaper and a speedier method than a suit with all the paraphernalia of a series of appeals. In spite of this, something is to be said in favour of giving a right to a subject to have his grievance redressed in the right constitutional method in the form of a full-fledged trial instead of leaving the remedy to the mercies or chances of

executive goodwill. The necessity for enlarging the scope for suits against Government is increasingly felt on account of the general awakening in the country and also by reason of the greater commercial activities undertaken by the Government.

High Court—the Final Authority.

The High Court of Mysore is the highest tribunal for all cases, civil as well as criminal. It has got consultative jurisdiction with reference to certain other matters, as for example, when the Government makes a reference to them under the provisions of the Land Revenue Code. It occupies a place in Mysore very much higher than that occupied by the High Courts in the respective provinces in British India. There is no doubt one advantage, *viz.*, that the pronouncement by the High Court will set the matter at rest once for all. Yet, the point for consideration would be whether the surrender of sovereignty in the form of submitting to a higher tribunal which will exercise jurisdiction over the whole of India will not on the balance confer greater benefit. Even nationalist leaders like Pandit Motilal were for the Judicial Committee continuing to exercise jurisdiction over British India. That was his solemn pronouncement in the Assembly when the question of a Supreme Court in India was being discussed. A tribunal far away in the democratic atmosphere of the United Kingdom free from all local prejudices and attracting to itself the highest legal acumen of the Empire has its own attractions. It is now pretty certain that Mysore is going to federate, which means a surrender of a certain portion of the sovereignty of the State. Why should not a surrender be made in this respect as well which will not certainly detract from the prestige that surrounds the person and throne of His Highness?

Connected with this topic are two other points though of less importance. If on any point of law there should be conflict

in the decisions by the various High Courts in British India while the Judicial Committee can set at rest the conflict and bring about uniformity for the whole of India, it cannot do so for Mysore if the local High Court should have already taken a decided view in the matter in conformity with one set of decisions rather than with another. A typical example is to be found in the case of what is called the pious obligation of a Hindu son to discharge his father's debts. In British India, there was at one time a controversy whether a Hindu son was under a pious obligation to discharge his father's debts even though there was no legal necessity for incurring them. Mysore accepted the view that there was no pious obligation. Only legal necessity or benefit bound his share. Ultimately, the Privy Council came to the conclusion that whether the father is alive or dead, the son is under a pious obligation to discharge his debts unless of course they were incurred for immoral purposes. If one may say so with respect, that is good logic. In Mysore, unfortunately, the Hindu son becomes pious only after his father's death and not during his life-time.

TENURE OF JUDGES.

The tenure of the judges is fixed in British India at a particular age limit. In England, it is for life. When the judges feel that they are unable to cope with the work, it is left for them to resign and not for any outside authority to force resignation from them. A controversy arose some time ago in England whether an age limit should be fixed. Those who were for fixing the age limit cited only one instance of a judge who was found to cling to the office even after his mental powers were enfeebled. After an elaborate discussion, it was finally settled that the appointment must be for life and if one could say so with respect it has been working with the best results in England. But that analogy may not hold good either in British India or in Mysore where a tradition like the

English tradition has yet to be built. Public opinion here is not strong enough to compel a judge, who is unable to cope with his work, to tender his resignation. Love of power and other things for its own sake are yet strong. In these circumstances, in Mysore, the tenure of office must be fixed either by contract or by statute. It clears the atmosphere, gives a better tone to the day to day work, dispels all kinds of rumours and gives enough time and warning to the man concerned to make the necessary adjustments for the altered conditions in his life.

Gaps to be Filled Up.

Progress in commercial legislation, in Mysore, is not keeping pace with that in British India. That is perhaps because the problem is not so acute in the country which has not got concerns of such great magnitude as in British India except those started by the Government or carried on under its auspices and prestige. That is why we do not find regulations relating to Broadcasting, Air Traffic, Navigation, Trade Unionism and Insurance, etc. We have a Mining Regulation which contains very peculiar features like the accused being called upon to prove his innocence or to explain his possession of certain materials in the mining area. That was so on account of certain local conditions which prevailed then in the mining area. The Regulation was enacted a long time back. Probably now, the time has arrived to liberalise it and bring it into a line with measures of a similar kind enacted elsewhere. Mysore was the first to start electric enterprise of world-wide repute. Her commitments in this direction are ever-increasing. It is very strange that till to-day, no legislation regarding electricity on the analogy of the British Indian Act is yet introduced in the country.

There are certain matters which are outside the purview of the legislative bodies in Mysore, for example, the Military Regulation or the Regulation concerning the Legislative Council

and the Assembly. When these latter bodies can be trusted to legislate for others, there is no reason why they should not be trusted to legislate for themselves. So far as the military matter is concerned, there are, no doubt, some difficulties in putting it within the orbit of these bodies. His Highness is directly responsible to the Governer-General-in-Council for the discharge of certain military obligations but the obligations are similar in respect of peace and tranquillity within the State, to promote which the legislative bodies have been given the power. There is no reason why the entire subject concerning the army should be put outside the purview of the legislature altogether.

WHERE MYSORE LEADS.

There are certain advantages inherent in an Indian State like Mysore, where the population is homogeneous and diversity of interests in any matter is very much less than in the large territories of British India. This enables the State to push on with certain kinds of measures with greater confidence and with greater ease. The British Government have committed themselves to absolute religious neutrality. It is guaranteed in the Queen's Proclamation itself. The stability of the British rule required that. But this kind of neutrality has its disadvantages. Social legislation which must necessarily trench on religion at times, especially a religion like Hinduism which takes in all sorts of things under the sun including dress in its orbit. Consistently with religious neutrality, the Government of India cannot expose themselves to any attack on the ground of breach of that undertaking by embarking on enactments like the Religious and Charitable Endowment Regulation. In Mysore, the Government can step in or delegate to any of its officers, Hindu, Christian or Mussalman, to take charge of the most sacred institution in certain contingencies contemplated by the Regulation. It roused no bitterness at the time it was enacted.

It has been on the statute books for more than two decades with modifications tending to give greater controlling power to Government. Its working so far has roused no controversy. A measure of the kind is unthinkable in British India. Mysore was the first to enact Infant Marriage Act which was the embryo of the later Sarada Act. The Hindu Women's Property Regulation, drafted by *Rajadharmapravina Diwan Bahadur* K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar, who was the Chief Justice of the High Court in Mysore, is serving as an example for many statesmen in British India as well as in Indian States to proceed with the liberalisation of the Hindu Law on similar lines. It is this identity of interest between the Government and the governed, that is accountable for a series of measures dealing with local self-government including the Village Panchayat Regulation. Irrigation Regulation in Mysore vests very great control over all sources of irrigation in the country. A much feebler attempt to give the power to the Government of Madras met with such strong opposition as to lead ultimately to the resignation of one of the most famous Indian Members of the Executive Council, Sir K. Srinivasa Iyengar. These natural conditions make reform in a State like Mysore very much easier than in a large country like British India which unfortunately consists of sections with various lines of cleavage such as race or religion.

THE FAUNA OF MYSORE.

PROTECTION OF WILD LIFE.

By M. Machaya, b.a. (Oxon.).

(*Chief Conservator of Forests, Mysore.*)

THE State of Mysore with an area of 29,300 square miles has been aptly described as a tableland. It has an altitude varying from 2,000 to 3,000 feet. The country divides itself into two fairly well-marked zones with distinctive features, *viz.*, the malnad and the maidan. The eastern portion is the maidan and the western, the malnad. The malnad occupies a lesser area of the State than the maidan. While the malnad is the land of magnificent forests and a marvellous variety of the animal kingdom, the open country of the maidan with its denser population has a larger number of birds. The intermediate country between the two zones partakes of the character of both and several kinds of wild animals and birds are found in the well-wooded deciduous types of forests with plenty of fodder to subsist upon. Having so many varied natural features there is considerable wealth of animal and bird life in Mysore. Besides the common monkey and the langur, you find in the dense ghat forests, the Nilgiri langur and the loris. Among the carnivora, the tiger and the panther are the most important. The hyaenas, jackals and bears are usually found in the dry tracts whereas the leopard cat, the wild cat, the malabar and the flying squirrels make their home in the proximity of the high forests. The bison, the sambhur, the barking deer, the spotted deer, mouse deer confine themselves to the high forests and the antelope is found in the open country near fields and round about villages in the dry country where it falls an easy prey to the poachers. The

ubiquitous wild boar is found all over wherever there is a thicket of scrub to give him shelter. The wild dog lives in the neighbourhood of the deer which forms its main source of food and may be said to be mainly responsible for the devastation of this kind of game.

The position of wild life in the tracts under the control of the Forest Department, is quite safe, especially as the provisions of the Forest Regulation amply safeguard it. The total area of the forests managed by the Forest Department, may be put at 4,500 square miles forming 15 per cent of the area of the State. Round about the State forests, the country is sparsely populated and the density of the interior of the forest affords ample protection to wild life. The Forest Department, which is entrusted with the working of Game Laws throughout the State, have their subordinate staff distributed in the forests for carrying out the forest operations and they attend to the protection of wild life also. Thus, all those factors which tend to their destruction are reduced and a fair stock of animals and birds is maintained. The State forests and rivers of Mysore may be divided from the point of view of wild life protection into :—

(*a*) Game Sanctuaries ;
(*b*) Game Preserves ;
(*c*) Tiger Preserves ; and
(*d*) Preserved waters.

GAME SANCTUARIES.

Chamarajnagar Game Sanctuary.—The necessity for wild life sanctuaries needs no argument. Properly run they become an asset to any country and their management has turned out into good financial investments in America, Canada and South Africa. Tourists are attracted in large numbers to view the scenic beauty and the untrammelled wild life. The Chamarajnagar Sanctuary with an area of 35 square miles is

situated amidst 100 square miles of the Game Preserve on the borders of Coimbatore where also vast stretches of wooded country exist. The elevation ranges from 2,000 feet in the plains to 4,000 feet in the hills and the highest point is 5,500 feet. The climate on the hills is cool and salubrious with a rainfall of 75″. Several perennial mountain streams run through the Sanctuary and water facilities to game are adequate. The Sanctuary is easily accessible by the high road which runs through Hasanur Ghat to Satyamangalam. The Chamarajnagar Railway Station of the Mysore Railways is only 12 miles from the outer limits of the forest. It is well served with 38 miles of roads, motorable in fair weather, running all round the area and with several bridle-paths and trails. It is provided with five forest rest-houses all round and in the interior at convenient distances. Besides the usual forest subordinates, a Game Establishment consisting of a Supervisor and seven watchers constantly patrol the forest and help to maintain a cleared permanent line all round the Sanctuary clean. Elephants, bison, sambhur, spotted and barking deer, antelopes are plentiful, Tigers are scarce in the uplands. All shooting except destruction of wild dogs within the Sanctuary is prohibited and in the Game Preserve of 65 square miles constituted over 25 years ago, which encloses the Sanctuary, shooting is rarely indulged in. There is extensive cultivation and considerable population on the outskirts of the forest in the plains on the Mysore side and here danger from poaching always exists, but in the uplands where there are a few flourishing coffee estates, protection is well secured, thanks to the planters who are very helpful.

GAME PRESERVES.

Five hundred sq. miles of State forests representative of all varieties of game, were constituted as Game Preserves in all parts of the State, over 25 years ago, wherever menace to wild

life was apprehended. Game licence-holders are excluded from this class of preserves and shooting is permitted under exceptional circumstances.

Tiger Preserves.

In 1917, about 126 sq. miles of forests in convenient blocks all over the State where tigers are expected to thrive well, were converted into Tiger Preserves. Prior to 1931, tiger was not listed among game and protection to it was considered



TAME ELEPHANTS CROSSING A RIVER.

necessary at the time. Shooting is prohibited without previous sanction of Government in these Preserves.

Preserved Waters.

To give opportunities to anglers with rod and line, certain well-known stretches of rivers famous for mahseer are protected from capture of fish of any kind by net and fishing licences are issued except during the spawning season. Fishing is absolutely prohibited in reservoirs used for supplying drinking water to cities and towns.

Protection of Elephants.

Elephants are dealt with under a separate law in Mysore on the lines of the Madras Act. Permission to shoot is rarely given by the Government and when it is given, the permit extends to shooting of one animal only. If a sportsman fails to bag an animal, the permission lapses and no further permit is issued. Shooting of wild elephants in defence of person or property is allowed. Organised elephant control is undertaken by the Game Staff. The Game Preserves Officer may take action to shoot rogue elephants in anticipation of obtaining orders of proscription where such action is called for to save life or property. Usually solitaries are the real culprits. Sometimes capture of elephants by pitfalls is arranged by the Government when damage to crops to an alarming extent is reported. Khedda operations are also organised to control them but the demand for elephants has fallen owing to depression in timber trade in Malabar and it has become unprofitable to capture as many as formerly.

While the position of wild life in the forests under the immediate control of the Department is secure, the same cannot be said of the areas which form 85 per cent of the total State area, particularly, where there is cultivation. The control is less effective and administration of this vast tract costs money. Sufficient provision for the entertainment of staff will be possible only if the economic conditions improve. More effective measures would materialise only then. In the meanwhile much benefit could accrue by the formation of Game Societies and Associations for helping the Government in this direction. In Hassan, Kadur and Shimoga Districts, where game exists over vast stretches of woodlands and which, owing to remoteness and inaccessibility, the Forest Department are not in a position to effectively protect, it is possible to form such associations conveniently from amongst the cultured large landholders and coffee planters.

In the rich forest tracts of Kadur and Hassan which are also the habitat of big game except tiger, the sheltering hill sides are under coffee cultivation and similarly in the maidan, vast tracts are being converted into cultivable lands. The pressure of shooting and killing is very great at present. Pea-fowls, partridges, quails, jungle fowls, pigeons and other game birds with bright and gorgeous plumes which adorn the country-side, are caught in nets and snares even during the breeding season and brought alive to the markets in cities and towns. Frequent punishments of offenders caught within the limits of municipalities, have no doubt brought some improvement. Unfortunately, the economic value of bird life is not appreciated. The insectivorous birds destroy insects and other pests which prey upon crops and thus benefit the raiyat. Again, the water-fowls that migrate into tanks and reservoirs are being shot wholesale during the cold season. Such wilful destruction of bird life deserves serious notice. The black buck which resorts to the open grassy plains near villages is extremely easy to be shot or captured and the depletion of this animal had to be seriously faced and suitable remedial measures by which this animal is completely preserved, are in force.

Game Regulation.

The situation of wild life outside the forests being in this parlous state, as far back as the nineties, the introduction of a Game Law was pressed for by the sportsmen and as a result of it, a Regulation was passed in 1901. Its object was not to create a monopoly in animals, birds and fish, for the benefit of the Government or of sportsmen at the cost of agriculture or the natural development of agriculture. It was neither intended to restrict the sportsmen from a fair and legitimate pursuit of game. The raiyats' interests are amply secured by this legislation. An owner or occupant of a land is allowed to kill, capture or pursue within the limits of his land, game

doing damage to his cattle or crop and gun licences are issued for this purpose free of fees.

In the Regulation, a list of animals and birds is given, the shooting and killing of which is absolutely prohibited and another list of game is given, the shooting of which is permitted under a game licence. Species, such as black buck and peafowl which were in danger of extermination, were notified for periods of five years at a time as totally preserved. Immature males and females of bison, deer and antelopes, secured absolute protection. Certain seasons of the year were fixed when killing or capture of game was allowed, while in others called close seasons, such acts will constitute an offence. Fishing in streams or lakes during spawning season was controlled as also poisoning of the water and the use of explosives and the capture of fish by fixed engines and nets of mesh below a certain size. In 1917 the Government notified a set of rules for the grant of rewards to informants in cases of game offences. In 1926, a committee was appointed to investigate causes for the diminution of game in the State and to suggest measures for putting down poaching and for regulating the issue of gun and game licences. The committee attributed the loss of game to the existence of wild dogs, the prevalence of poaching and to the facility given to raiyats for shooting game on the plea of crop and cattle protection. It was also observed that bird life was in danger due to the professional bird catchers carrying on netting at all seasons and offering them for sale in the markets.

The game laws suitably amended on the above lines were passed in 1928. The most important of these are :—

(1) Tiger was declared as game and the system of rewards for killing it was stopped except in municipal areas. When tiger became a source of menace to cattle or people, its destruction without a game licence is allowed after such affected areas are notified.

(2) In order to encourage killing of wild dogs rewards were substantially raised to Rs. 50 for a bitch and Rs. 30 for a dog.

(3) Pursuing of game beyond the limits of an occupant's land on the plea of protection of his property was prohibited and such acts became punishable.

(4) Prohibition of bird catching between May and November was introduced and the taking of eggs of game birds was forbidden.

(5) The game laws were applied to all lands, including Jaghir and Inam.

(6) Issue of game licences is hereafter vested in the District Forest Officer and the scale of fees was raised and a limit was placed on the bag of each licence holder. The provincial game licence was abolished and the licence was restricted to a district.

These rules are now in force but a further revision is under contemplation in view of the proceedings of the conference held in New Delhi by the Government of India during January 1935. This conference was more or less on the lines of the African Conference of 1933 and a momentous advance was made when the convention was ratified by England, Belgium, France and other contracting parties during the current year.

A draft was produced in New Delhi, when representatives of most of the Provinces and important States were present and took part in the deliberations. This was later circulated in order to obtain the views of each Province or State so as to arrive at an agreed policy for the common good. The Government of Mysore have agreed to give effect to those measures which can be applied to our conditions. The more important of these are :—

(*a*) The education of public opinion about wild life in the State.

(*b*) Issue of gun licences.

(*c*) Enforcing the laws against poaching and sale of game.

(*d*) Revision of the list of game animals and birds and

introduction of rules to counteract the facilities of shooting with searchlights and from motor cars.

EDUCATING PUBLIC OPINION.

Education of public opinion and nature study.—It is recognised that if the movement is to succeed, the safest policy is to continue to endeavour to influence public opinion, in order to secure their whole-hearted support. Educating both the adult and the young in schools, by public lectures, films, museums, should be one of the steps to be taken to secure whole-hearted co-operation. Formation of small bird sanctuaries in the midst of towns and cities has a great educational value. Once children come to learn and know birds at close quarters, they develop a protective instinct and lose the desire to kill or capture them. Signs are not wanting by the interest taken by the cultured people in Mysore that they recognise its value. This legacy, which nature has given them for the enjoyment of themselves and of generations to come, has to be brought home to the general public.

Gun licences.—Measures were taken in 1932 to reduce the number of gun licences in the State and to discourage the public from possessing fire-arms not ordinarily required for the purpose of protection of property. The fees were doubled and fresh issue was restricted to muzzle loaders. In spite of this, the number of gun licences in force has gone up to 30,000 in 1935. A man in possession of a crop protection licence seems at present to be under the impression that he can go and use his gun everywhere, while he is allowed its use only in the area under his possession. Out of the gun licences in force, 25,000 are for sport, display and protection. In the case of the first, *viz.*, sport, during the year only 98 have obtained game licences during 35-36. It cannot be that the others have not shot any game. For purposes of display as in the case of mutts and important personages, there is no need that

the weapons licensed should be modern ones. For protection of person and property, the occasions must be rare to issue licences for the purpose in Mysore where watch and ward is perfect. The whole scheme has to be modified. Prioı consultation of the local Forest Officer for issue and renewal of gun licences in the proximity of forests has to be considered.

Prevention of Poaching.

Poaching.—With 30,000 gun licences, considerable amount of poaching must be prevailing in the country. The depleting of wild life in areas outside State forests must be put down to this. Communal drives of game by enclosing large game tracts with nets ostensibly for purpose of killing wild boar which is listed among vermin, contribute for the destruction of deer and antelopes which happen to be in the surround on those occasions. Exercise of this privilege by villagers should not be countenanced and must be withdrawn altogether. Netting of birds, not only during the open season but also throughout the breeding season, causes much havoc among game birds. In this connection it should be admitted that a considerable amount of wild life is lost through natural causes. Such diseases like rinderpest and anthrax take away large numbers during periods of epidemics, but the loss over which man can have effective control should be avoided. Unless man mends his ways, possible extermination has to be faced. Commercialisation of wild life must be put an end to. Without the burden of proof as to the legal possession being placed on the possessor, rules regarding poaching become quite ineffective. When a person is accused of having sold, bought, or exposed for sale any game, it should be presumed that it was obtained in contravention of the Game Rules unless the contrary is proved. Grant of rewards to informers and others who may render service by detecting or preventing breaches of Game Laws should be forthcoming promptly and liberally. As far

as possible, the local officers should have funds allotted for this purpose and allowed to grant rewards in such proportions as they think fit.

Game Rules.—Steps have to be taken to prohibit shooting from motor cars and other vehicles. Instances of lorry drivers and motor mechanics shooting deer and antelopes have been frequently brought to notice of late. The use of artificial lights at nights to attract deer and then indulge in slaughter deserve severe punishment. Sitting over salt licks and water holes which is a favourite method of the village poachers, should also receive notice and be stopped. In any legislation it is important to differentiate between killing, capturing or possessing on the one hand and buying, selling and offering for sale on the other hand. Game offences, if not made cognizable, enforcement of the law would be rendered very difficult.

In order to implement the various issues arising from the proceedings of the Delhi Conference, the Government have passed orders in July 1936 appointing a committee to examine the measures in detail and submit proposals. The heads of Revenue, Police, Education and Forest Departments, one District Magistrate and Mr. R. C. Morris of Attikan Estate with the District Forest Officer, Bangalore, as Secretary, constitute the personnel. It has Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I., as the Chairman to guide the deliberations. Mr. R. C. Morris has an unique knowledge of wild life in the East and has gained considerable experience during the recent exploration of fauna and flora in the inner Burma towards Chindwin, as a member of the Vernay Expedition of 1935. His thorough mastery of the subject will therefore be of considerable value to the committee. Sir Charles Todhunter, it is confidently expected, will bring to bear on the subject his intimate knowledge and vast experience of handling capably any intricate matter and this will augur well for the scheme for the protection of wild life in future.

AGRICULTURE IN MYSORE.

SCOPE FOR IMPROVEMENT.

By *Rao Bahadur* B. K. Garudachar.

(*President, Bangalore City Municipal Council.*)

THE subject is vast. It is extremely difficult under the present conditions to suggest the lines on which Mysore agriculture could be improved. The country is an extensive tableland sloping from west to east, with an altitude varying from 4,006 feet in the west to 2,000 feet in the east. This vast area is cut up into innumerable valleys, the heavy rains falling on the western highlands, resulting in the river Cauvery and its tributaries in the south-east, Thungabhadra and its tributaries in the north-east with Palar and Pennar in between. The rainfall in the plateau varies from 200 inches in the west to 30 inches in the east and dwindles to 15 inches or so in the north-east of the Province. The rainfall is well distributed in normal years as both monsoons benefit this plateau.

Being an undulating country, as previously mentioned, erosion of the surface would have been very great but for the unique system of tanks in Mysore.

The Nature of the Soil and Holdings.

The soil in Mysore is not of a uniform nature. Being one of the oldest geological formations, the differences are very marked, various types being met with even over an area of a square mile or less. Extensive patches of uniform soil such as the black cotton soil in the north and south-east of Mysore and the red sandy loams of the east maidan are no doubt noticeable. The highlands which are generally subject to

heavy rainfall are poor and alluvial soils thus formed in the valleys are rich and deep. The major portion of the country is under dry crops, by which is meant crops fed by rain: the irrigated crops being mainly fed by tanks and a few river channels, well irrigation being negligible.

Just like the soil, the size of holdings also varies in different parts of the country. The majority of these is less than five acres in red soil areas and not more than seven acres in black soil tracts. Owing to the nature of cultivation, these holdings too are not compact. As every cultivator desires to have dry, wet and garden lands, it is not uncommon to see his holding scattered in at least three different areas. Added to this, owing to division of property from generation to generation, land under each kind of cultivation too is not in one and the same place. Such a system makes cultivation rather costly and not convenient for supervision. It indicates the need for a certain amount of consolidation of holdings.

THE CHIEF CROPS.

The chief dry crop grown in the country is ragi, a hardy plant taking six months to mature and yielding rich grain and fodder. In the black cotton soils mentioned above, cotton, jola and other small millets are grown.

Of the irrigated crops, paddy occupies the largest area with sugarcane and garden crops dotted over the whole maidan area. Recently owing to the establishment of the sugar factory at Mandya and the perennial irrigation of the Irwin Canal, it has been possible to grow sugarcane on an extensive scale.

Till quite recently, sugarcane was the chief money crop in the maidan irrigated areas. Owing to fall in prices and the loss of outside markets for jaggery, it has become very difficult to make cane cultivation profitable though yields per acre have been improved to a great extent. Much is being talked

about production of cream jaggery, and white sugar as a cottage industry. It remains to be seen how far these methods are likely to improve the lot of cane-growers in the tracts above-mentioned.

In the western woodlands, plantation crops such as coffee, pepper and arecanut are successfully grown.

The plantation crops of coffee, cardamom and areca are the chief money crops in the malnad. Coffee is largely produced by big planters holding extensive areas whereas areca gardens are generally small. Areca was suffering from a disease called the "Kole Roga," but the Department of Agriculture have brought it under control by spraying operations for more than 25 years; even this has not improved the position of the areca grower. Similarly, the diseases and pests of coffee too are receiving due attention by the Agricultural Department. In spite of all help in combating the pests and increasing production, the people in the malnad are passing through a crisis on account of abnormal fall in prices for their produce.

With the variations in soil, climate, altitude, rainfall and crops as indicated above, it is not easy to suggest general ways of improving on the present state of affairs.

In the first instance, taking tillage and preparation of the land for dry crops into consideration, what holds good for one part of the State does not hold good for another. The deep and arid cotton tracts have to be broken up by heavy ploughs during the hot weather, whereas the red and sandy soils of the east and centre bake so hard during summer that it is impossible to tackle them until they are well soaked by the early rains.

Agricultural Implements.

The implements in use for the various cultural operations differ from place to place in size and strength and material also.

The average Mysore raiyat compares very favourably with his neighbour in his farming operations. He should be considered an adept in the art of dry farming. Though he does not know the why and wherefore of things, his methods are highly scientific so that it is very difficult to suggest any improvements in his methods of dry farming. One may find fault with the implement he uses for ploughing by saying that



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

TWO VILLAGERS MAKING THEIR OWN PLOUGH.

it does not invert the soil, does not enter the land deep, does not cover more land and so on, but under the conditions in which he is placed they fit in quite nicely. Only a few decades ago, communications and facilities for transport were so crude and meagre that it was sufficient for the farmer to clothe and feed himself. He was quite content with the produce of his land and was happy. This state of things gradually changed and his contact with towns and the liberal education provided

by Government raised the standard of living to a considerable extent. To provide for his wants, his harvests were good and hand in hand the markets also rose with the result that the profits from farming were high. This induced the farmer to extend his holdings, but the implements he had were not equal to the occasion when, thanks to the Department of Agriculture, a new type of plough (the Canadian John Deer Plough) popularly known as the Kolar Mission Plough was introduced. This plough suited the conditions here very well and it has to a very great extent solved the difficulties of the dry land farmer in his tillage operations.

Besides introducing improved implements, the Department of Agriculture has made the cultivator familiar with the new varieties of seeds, especially ragi, the main food of Mysore. To supplement the stocks of available cattle manure, and other organic manures, the use of artificial manures profitably for crops like cane, coffee, paddy and ragi, has been amply demonstrated on the fields of the raiyats themselves.

Now coming to the present period of depresssion in prices, however good the harvest may be, the income of the farmer has dwindled to such an extent that he cannot make both ends meet and feels miserable as it is so very difficult for him to retrace his steps in the standard of life to which he has become accustomed. It is only when the farmer has surplus cash in hand that he can think of improving his methods, machinery and so on.

Cattle Breeding.

An important side line of the Mysore farmer is that of cattle breeding. From a very long time, Mysore cattle have been much valued by the people of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies for quick draught purposes. They were also in demand in Ceylon, Java, Malaya, Brazil, Cuba and other places resulting in the industry being a profitable one. This

made the Mysore raiyat breed his cattle for the one purpose of draught and neglect the quality of milk. At present, conditions have changed. The motor has supplanted the bullock for draught purposes and the demand from foreign countries completely ceased. Nearer home, the demand for heavy cattle was for water lifting. Even here the electric motor and the oil engine have displaced them. The only demand now is for ploughing which is very limited : hence the fall in prices with the consequent depression in the industry. Now at least, it is time that the Mysore farmer should make up to supplement his income earned by farming by the production of milk for which there is an ever-increasing demand. To this end, he has to breed a special milking strain, if it is not possible to breed a dual purpose animal as suggested by so many experts all over India. I would suggest that the two be kept separate as the draught animal has been bred and developed to a high degree of perfection.

OTHER OCCUPATIONS.

Another minor source of income to the Mysore farmer has been the production of eggs and poultry. The marketing of these two products has been no doubt well organized by the dealers in such goods on account of a steady demand in cities but the production is not well cared for. An improvement in the breeding of poultry and production of eggs is very desirable.

On account of the equable climate of the Mysore Province and its altitude, much has been said about the possibilities of fruit, flower and vegetable growing. Except in the vicinity of towns, vegetable and flower growing may not result in profit. As for fruit growing, though the quality of fruit produced may be high, it is next to impossible to compete with fruit imported from places and countries where the conditions for production are naturally better. The facilities for transport

and cold storage being so good, very good quality fruits from distant America, Africa, Japan and other countries are offered cheaper than the local fruit.

Use of Electric Power.

Electrification of the country side and reduction of power rates recently has encouraged the installation of pumping units. Such installations seem to open up vast possibilities for the supplementing of water in small tanks. Mr. N. Krishna Iyengar of Ooragahalli was one of the poineers to install irrigation pumps for large-scale operations, and demonstrated the way of utilising the seepage water of tanks and the drainage water of irrigated fields over and over again. I have recently followed his method and found that without operating the sluice of the little tank in my village, but simply pumping up percolation water collected in a subsidiary well, it has been possible not only to double the area under irrigation but also preserve in the tank a large amount of water which would otherwise have found its way to tanks lower down. This experiment is worth investigation by the Public Works Department as Mysore has many minor tanks under which raising of crops is uncertain on account of accumulation of silt and uncertainty of monsoon.

In conclusion I should like to state that under present circumstances there is not much scope for the farmer to better his condition, by adopting new methods, however desirable they may be unless and until the markets improve.

EDUCATION IN MYSORE.

ASPIRATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

BY N. S. SUBBA RAO, M.A. (CANTAB.).

(*Director of Public Instruction, Mysore.*)

IT is one of the chief objectives in a modern State to raise the quality of life and the level of culture among the masses, and hence the demand for mass education. The day may come when every one in a community will pass through a secondary school and pass on to the university or to a post-secondary vocational course. For some years to come the objective of educational policy in India in this respect will have to be limited to spread of primary education, supplemented by some kind of adult education. In Mysore, as elsewhere in India, much attention has therefore been given to extension of primary education and improvement of its quality. The Elementary Education Regulation of 1930 contemplated a ten-year programme of expansion of primary education on a voluntary basis, that is to say, supply of schools to as many villages as possible, without ignoring compulsion as the next stage. Unfortunately the years since 1930 have been years of depression, and although elaborate programmes of expansion have been carefully drawn up by Local Education Authorities, lack of finance on all sides has kept the programmes from being put into operation. Yet grants from Government, although more modest than Government themselves desire, have enabled more than a hundred schools to be started in the last few months, and a hundred more will be started in the course of the year. Care is being taken to supplement the expansion of primary education by improvement in quality, on the one side by revision of the curricula of

studies for the teachers in primary schools, who are now given a three years' training, and on the other by making efforts to reduce the familiar wastage and stagnation in the primary stage.

Visual Instruction.

In the western countries adult education is intended to supplement the elementary education received during their childhood by the great majority of the people. The fact that those who attend the classes for adults have had some kind of education, permits courses of a fairly advanced character to be given to the pupils, and in any case adult education is not primary education or the teaching of the three R's to grown-ups, who have grown up illiterate as in our country. This identification of adult education with instruction in illiteracy has been responsible to a great extent for the failure of night schools for adults, and in Mysore we have abolished in recent years a large number of them, since it was found they served no useful purpose. For, the adult requires something different and he cannot be expected to spend after a hard day's work an hour or two in the night in spelling out painfully the Kannada Primer or in attempting to write words of two and three letters. In one sense adult education of the right sort is more important than primary education for the young, since the adults have the control of affairs directly or indirectly, and it is only with their intelligent and willing co-operation that the life of the community can be raised in tone. Therefore, it is important that they should be taught things of real interest and importance to them without the intervention of literacy. For this purpose visual instruction and broadcasting are powerful weapons that Science has placed in our hands. Several years ago we had in operation a system of visual instruction, but the chill fingers of depression stifled it, but with improved conditions there is every hope that the scheme may be revived. The Department has had given to it an expensive projector,

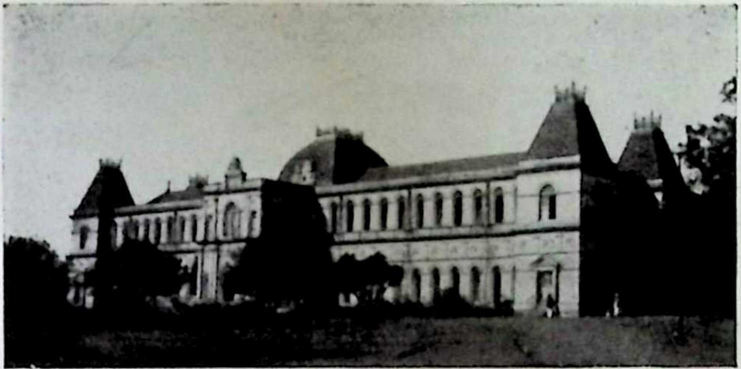


Photo by] [*Shankar & Co.*

MYSORE—MAHARAJA'S COLLEGE.



Photo by] [*Cyril and Wiele.*

BANGALORE—THE CENTRAL COLLEGE.

This is the science college of the Mysore University where students are taught up to the M.Sc. standard.

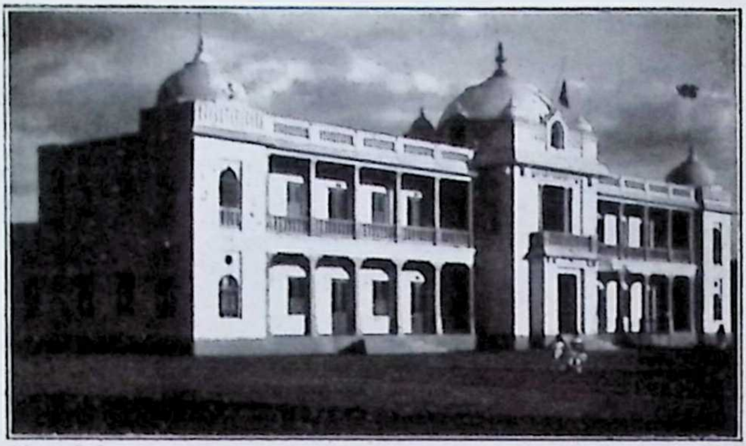


Photo by] [*Cyril and Wiele.*

BANGALORE—THE SANSKRIT COLLEGE.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

THE MAHILA SAMAJ AT MYSORE.

One of the most progressive institutions of its kind and is doing useful work among womenfolk.

which will be made use of for instruction in rural areas, which is facilitated by the presence of electric power practically in all the chief centres in the State. A committee has also been examining measures for establishing in the State a broadcasting station with the main purpose of ministering to the needs of people in villages. In this connection, it should be mentioned that an enthusiastic group of university teachers has been going to mofussil centres and giving lectures in Kannada on subjects of general interest as well as giving readings from Kannada classics. There is every reason to hope that their work will receive support from the Extension Lectures Committee of the university which will then give it an official character and make it an integral part of the extension department of the university.

Free Education.

Mass education has another aspect, *viz.*, that it should be available for the children of all sections of the community. It is well known that it is not enough merely to provide schools, since the poorer sections of the community or sections of the community which have not hitherto resorted to education, are not likely to take advantage of such provision unless special measures are taken. In order that the schools in the primary and secondary stage may be fully available to pupils of all sections of the community, Government have made education free in the primary and middle school stages, *i.e.*, the first eight years of education are free. Further, in the middle school stage, scholarships are awarded to children from backward communities, while in the case of the depressed classes, in addition to scholarships, liberal provision has been made both for free as well as aided hostel facilities. In the case of Government hostels for the depressed classes, boarding, lodging and clothing are free. Grants-in-aid are given to hostel for other communities, and in this manner education is sought

to be spread among all the sections of the community. This policy has been in existence for a number of years and the results are seen in the change in the composition of the school population. Not long ago the population of the middle and high schools was overwhelmingly Brahmin, whereas now in the case of middle schools, 62·8 per cent are pupils of backward communities, and in the case of high schools, 46 per cent are pupils of backward communities.

Mysore, like the rest of India, and for the matter of that like the rest of the world, is interested in the problem of the relation of education to employment. Of course, employment is a function of many variables, and of this education is only one and not by any means the most significant. That people believe education should contribute towards employment is certain; at any rate, it must not add to unemployment by disqualifying a person from employment or by training too many for a limited field or area of employment in the country. Whatever may be the other and higher aims of education, it is certain that one of its principal aims will always be to prepare the great majority of children for one occupation or other in a community, though other factors will decide what these occupations should be and how great the demand for recruits will be in one occupation or other. Given the ground plan of employment in a community, which will, of course, be subject to modification from time to time, it will be the business of the educationist to devise courses to prepare recruits for the respective occupations, and in co-operation with the employer and the psychologist to distribute the youthful population between the different courses. In Mysore as elsewhere, we have been finding that the courses of study in the middle and high school stages are bookish in character and designed to lead stage by stage to the courses in the university, and the university courses have been planned in the main to supply recruits for Government service and the professions. Since

the extent of employment in these avenues is limited, while the number of those that are seeking university education has been steadily increasing, the inevitable result has followed that more are passing through the present courses in the university than can find employment either in Government service, or can make a living in the professions outside Government service.

Parallel Vocational Courses.

The subject has been examined in detail by a committee which reported recently, and broadly the suggestions of the committee are: Firstly, there should be parallel vocational courses in the pre-university stage so as to divert pupils from the bookish courses that lead to the university. Secondly, the general high school stage of education should itself be reorganised so as to allow those with aptitude and ability to proceed to the present university courses, while others should take in the high school stage realistic courses, at the end of which they will be qualified for continuation courses either in the university or elsewhere.

A third and a very important recommendation of the committee is the reorganisation of the School Final course so as to supply the university with a better type of recruit for the present courses. For this purpose a compulsory group has been devised in which the work in English and in the Second Language remains what it is now, but the work in mathematics, history and geography and elementary science is reduced. But those who propose to proceed to the Intermediate course in Science are expected to take an optional group which supplies all the additional science and mathematics that are considered necessary as foundation for university work, while those that intend to proceed to the Inter Arts course are given an additional group in history and geography, which again is considered necessary as a basis for further studies in the Arts subjects. The main point is that the

burden of the examination is reduced, and the aptitudes of the pupils are given weight by reducing the amount of compulsory mathematics and science for the Arts students, a similar reduction in history and geography being made in the case of Science students. As mentioned above, the third type of student who is not bookish in his aptitude is allowed to supplement the compulsory group by a realistic course in industry, in commerce or in music or in domestic science, so that he or she may proceed to an advanced course, not of the degree standard, in these subjects.

Instruction through Mother-tongue.

Another important educational measure for which Mysore can take credit as being considerably in advance of the rest of India is instruction through the mother-tongue in the high schools. For some years past, instruction in history and geography through Kannada has been given with great success, and recently mathematics is also being taught through the same language, and arrangements are being made for similar instruction in science from 1937-38. At the same time pupils whose mother-tongue is different are taught, through English, so that there is no compulsion whatever for a pupil whose mother-tongue is not Kannada to adopt that medium. The change was begun in 1931-32, and at the examination of 1940 candidates will present themselves who will have been taught in Kannada in all the optional subjects. In other words, a decade will have been taken in making a change over in the case of the great majority of the pupils from instruction through a foreign medium to instruction through the mother-tongue. People will perhaps wonder that the reform should have come so late and so slowly.

Education of girls is as important as mass education and vocational education, for, as the Simon Commission has remarked, "The whole texture and strength of the national

life are largely dependent on the contribution which women make to it alike for the training and instruction of the young and for the readjustment of the Indian social system. The Indian woman is pivotal." Mysore has been a pioneer in this field, and although several British Indian Provinces have made progress, it cannot be said that Mysore has lagged behind.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu,"*

THE NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR GIRL GUIDES IN BANGALORE.

So far as university education is concerned, it is to be feared that the supply of women graduates, some of them exceptionally well qualified, has overtaken the demand for them and deposited them in the ranks of the unemployed. It is probable that the proposed diversified courses of study in the high schools will meet the situation, and the education of women will not be confused with the production of more women graduates. The number of high schools for girls has become larger, and it is under consideration to increase

facilities for high school education of girls in the malnad area. Women themselves are not agreed whether domestic science and music and fine arts should be provided for girls in preference to courses which have a university objective, and here again we must wait and see whether the courses proposed by the reorganisation committee will be popular.

Physical Culture.

In conclusion, reference may be made to the increasing interest among students in physical culture which is evidenced not only by greater attention in schools, but also by the foundation of non-departmental institutions of physical culture, some of which are doing excellent work. It is a good sign of the times that exhibitions of physical feats are a part of school day celebrations and scout rallies.

The vexed question of religious and moral instruction has been under consideration for several years, but opinion is divided on the subject. Syllabuses for moral instruction in the primary, middle and high school stages have been drawn up and text books are under preparation for the different stages. The path for religious instruction has been prepared by the preparation of a Book of Extracts from the sacred books of different religions, which is under print. Whether that book itself will be adopted and religious instruction in schools be adopted as a policy, or will need to be supplemented by some other work of a more denominational character remains to be seen.

MEDICAL RELIEF IN MYSORE.

WELL CO-ORDINATED EXPANSION.

BY A MEDICO.

A VISITOR to the office room of the Senior Surgeon to the Government of Mysore, unless he or she be a timorous type of an applicant, will not fail to be attracted by a board, giving a tabular statement of the number of medical institutions in the State and the number of people, who were treated both as in- and out-patients in them during the successive decades since 1890. The figures thereon give one an idea of the wonderful expansion of the Government medical aid in the State. Obviously the Mysore people believe with Stevenson that the physician is the "fine flower of our civilization," and that they are not "giving themselves hopelessly into the hands of the profession, one so deeply mistrusts" as Bernard Shaw thinks.

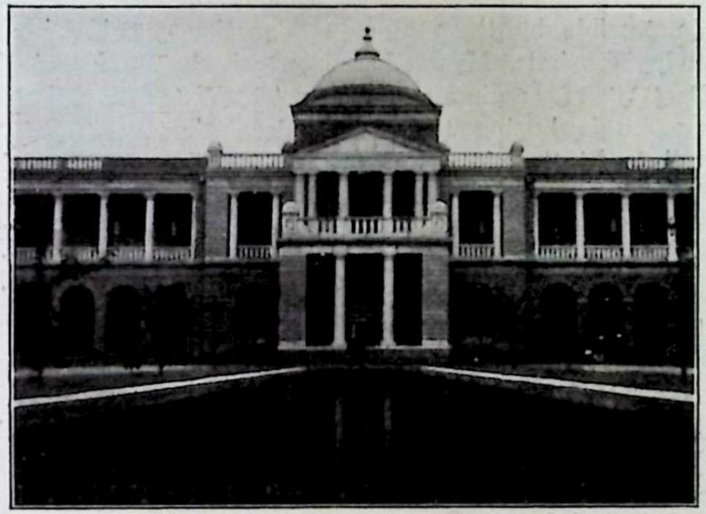
Expansion of the medical organisation in the State would be better understood if one has the patience to pin small flags on the map of Mysore, to indicate the location of 280 and odd institutions that exist to-day. The distribution is so made all over the State that there is at least one dispensary within a radius of five miles, serving an average population of 23,734. In this distribution the malnad districts, the most unhealthy, thinly populated and with villages scattered without any approaches to them, have received greater benefit in that though they form one-third of the whole State, have more than 40 per cent of the medical institutions to look after the health of the people there. It is often heard that even such a large number of institutions is inadequate to meet the requirements of the disease-stricken people of the malnads. The number of institutions may be doubled, yet the cry for

more dispensaries will continue, until the preventive measures recently started yield the anticipated results.

Origin of Medical Aid.

The honour of inaugurating medical aid in the State goes to Colonel T. G. McGann who came to Mysore in 1876 as a civil surgeon and is still in Mysore, adored by all, spending his retired life closely watching the fruits of the tree which he planted more than 52 years ago. In 1876 there was one general hospital in Mysore without any special arrangements for maternity work, situated in a group of small cottages which were replaced in 1918 by a magnificent structure which is now called the Sri Krishnarajendra Hospital. In those early years, Bangalore had a small hospital for emergent and serious cases only. The generosity of *Rai Bahadur* Yele Mallappa Chetty of "Y" tank fame gave Bangalore a maternity hospital. By 1885 when Colonel McGann took over administrative charge, there were 37 medical institutions which gradually rose to 120 by 1896 when he retired. To-day there are 281 institutions manned by 400 medical officers, 52 of whom are women. The number of patients that were treated last year as in-patients was 47,000 and as out-patients there were about nearly nine times that number. These huge figures indicate that the public of Mysore have begun to throw off their old superstition and ignorance and to realise the benefits of treatment by modern scientific methods. How much the public value the allopathic system can be gauged by the number of general practitioners who are settling down in the State. Their number is almost half of the number of men in service. The expenditure of the Medical Department has risen from 3½ lakhs in 1900 to nearly 18 lakhs in 1935 of which about 5 lakhs are contributions by local bodies. The percentage of expenditure works on an average of Re. 0-4-2 per head of population. Of the

18 lakhs, a little over 10 lakhs has been spent in the cities of Mysore and Bangalore where all the well-equipped general hospitals and special institutions have been grouped. The district hospitals are being reorganised and brought up-to-date. With a view to further extend relief in rural areas, a Rural Practitioner's Scheme is under consideration of the Medical Department and it is believed that the scheme will be attractive to encourage a large number of fresh men, who are now unemployed, to settle in the villages.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

THE VANIVILAS HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

PRIVATE PHILANTHROPY.

The great awakening of the public with regard to modern scientific treatment is also evidenced by the fact that during the last ten years the spontaneous donations by philanthropists towards construction of hospitals amount to well

over 11 lakhs. The Princess Krishnajammanni Tuberculosis Sanatorium is a gracious gift of the Royal House of Mysore. The huge pile of buildings of the maternity hospital in Bangalore with its children's hospital, isolation wards and the out-patients' departments; the radiological block and the out-patients' wards of the Victoria Hospital; the eye hospital and the out-patients' dispensary of the Sri Krishnarajendra Hospital in Mysore, the maternity hospital at Hole-Narsipur, the general and maternity hospitals at Chikmagalur and at Shimoga, are some of the major hospitals made possible by these generous donations. Sri Krishnarajendra Hospital at Mysore has also received a munificent gift of Rs. 20,000 for radium treatment. The Victoria Hospital in Bangalore is hoping to have a deep therapy apparatus installed with the aid of public charity. The town of Kolar will very soon have an imposing building, the cost of which is estimated to be 85,000 rupees. Mysore is actively engaged in raising funds to replace the present Maternity Hospital of Colonel McGann's time by a modern structure worthy of the capital.

While saying something about medical aid in Mysore, one should not forget the work of missionaries, who, in their selfless devotion to service, are attending to the needs of the sick and disabled, irrespective of caste, creed and position in life. They have, in all, six institutions of which one is a general hospital, four are for women and children and the sixth is a dispensary.

Maternity Aid.

The medical organisation of the State has not forgotten the women folk; in fact, the women of Mysore are much better off when compared with their sisters outside in the matter of maternity aid. This does not really mean that medical facilities for women in Mysore are quite adequate,

for it is common knowledge that a very large majority of labour cases are conducted by untrained dayees and even by women who have just had an opportunity of witnessing a couple of deliveries. There are at present 52 women doctors in charge of 31 maternity institutions and female dispensaries where the number of women delivered last year was about nine thousand. In addition, a batch of 200 midwives, including 32 working in non-dispensary places, have conducted about 18,000 labours outside. There is a move to have a midwife in each village and a maternity home for each Village Panchayat. This will become possible only when there are intelligent women coming forth to take up the profession and willing to settle in rural areas. The State Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society with its invaluable aid in the organization of maternity and child-welfare work has been to a very great extent responsible in creating facilities for ante-natal and post-natal clinics in different parts of the State. The work of these clinics which are 38 in all is co-ordinated by an Organiser working under the direction of the Director of Public Health.

Indigenous Medicine.

While in the absence of figures, it is not possible to estimate the percentage of people that flock round unqualified healers, it may be safely admitted that trained and untrained hakims and vaidyas, the literate and illiterate quacks and dayees command public confidence to the same extent in Mysore as in the rest of India. The Ayurvedic and Unani systems may or may not be scientific. The Government have shown keen interest in their revival. There is a Training College in Mysore. One hundred and twenty-six indigenous dispensaries are maintained by the local bodies at a cost of Rs. 40,000 catering to the needs of 1,224,062 sick people in different parts of the State.

Public Health Organisation.

As long ago as 1887 the necessity for a preventive organisation was recognised and the Senior Surgeon was made *ex-officio* Sanitary Commissioner, but no notable advance was made till 1929, when, as a result of the Health Survey conducted by the Rockefeller Foundation, at the invitation of the Government, the Public Health Department was reorganised and placed under a Sanitary Commissioner, independent of the Medical Department. Though tied down by a limited budget, the Department has made remarkable progress during the past seven years. The Rural Health Unit of Mandya has helped considerably in creating a "sanitary conscience" amongst the villagers. Encouraged by its results, a second centre has now been established in Closepet. Three malaria controlling stations are in full swing carrying out experiments in eradicating the carrier mosquitoes. Massive treatment against hook-worm has been undertaken in heavily infected areas. Within a period of four years, guinea-worm has been completely rooted out of Chitaldrug and if one wishes to catch it, he needs to just cross the frontier. To disseminate health knowledge, considerable propaganda is being done by means of health films, leaflets, posters and journals. The water-supply of all the important towns, with the exception of Bangalore City, is now under the control of the Health Department. That the Department which has a programme of eventually cutting down the morbidity and mortality rates, and of raising the average expectation of life of a Mysorean, thereby effecting a possible reduction in the medical budget of the State should be working under the handicap of finance and want of recognition from the public is a very regrettable feature.

Non-Observance of Sanitary Regulations.

Although there are sanitary laws enacted, they are very imperfectly enforced. A dead body, for example, may be disposed of without producing a proper medical certificate regarding the cause of death. Oftentimes the watchman of the burial grounds acting as the Registrar gives his own interpretation as to the cause of death from the description of the malady. Bangalore City has a system of voluntary notification of infectious diseases. But the public penalise the notifying practitioner by not utilising his services a second time. Such a state of affairs, not by any means peculiar to Mysore, could only be improved, in the opinion of some, by educating the masses in health-knowledge and not by any legislation which cannot be effectively enforced. The Indian Red Cross Society supplements the efforts of the Sanitary Department in the spread of health habits amongst the adults and the school-going folk. Rural hygiene is an important feature of Boy Scout training; the Rovers during the holidays visit the villages to give practical demonstrations in the disposal of refuse without affecting its value as a manure, in cleaning the drinking-water wells and effectively preventing their pollution and in constructing drains and ventilating houses. The school-going population of the big cities, and of some of the municipalities who have volunteered to contribute towards the cost, enjoys the privilege of the defects being noted by a medical officer on the cards provided for the purpose. Leprosy, fortunately confined to a few centres in the State, is being very effectively tackled by a local committee of the Empire Leprosy Relief Association.

Growth of Medical Education.

To meet the local needs, a Medical School was started in 1885, but it did not survive long. The abundant clinical material that was available in the Victoria Hospital with a

highly qualified staff was a sufficient inducement to restore the Medical School in 1917, and it is gratifying to observe that the products of this institution have won high praise both in and outside Mysore. A College in addition became a a necessity in 1924, as a degree in medicine to a Mysorean in the outside universities, owing to heavy congestion in their own institutions, became almost impossible. Till three years ago licentiates were all being absorbed into the service. Amongst the later products there has been unemployment. Of the graduates, 63 in all since the inauguration of the College, only 19 have been absorbed into service while in the same period 20 appointments have gone to the graduates of other universities. It may be that the exigencies of services required the import of foreign talent, or it may even be that it was considered necessary that the independent medical profession should have amongst its ranks men with recent training and ideas. Whatever may be the reason for their not being in Government service, they have augmented the list of the unemployed. One would wish to seriously consider the desirability of maintaining both factories in full swing without a market for their products. Though on paper the standard of qualification for entrance into the licentiate course is slightly lower, in practice one finds a very good majority of the entrants possess the higher qualification required for the degree course. Yet such a licentiate, who takes a course shorter by one year is considered an inferior commodity. This caste system in the medical profession may have had some justification at the time it was inaugurated, but the present conditions do not warrant that there should be two portals of entry into the profession. It is the fervent hope of many a lover of the profession that Mysore will soon give the lead to the rest of India by closing down the Medical School which is the only solution of this vexed problem of caste system. Such a step may be very strongly opposed on financial grounds,

but "the increase in the medical budget would be gradual and not abrupt, as replacing the licentiates by graduates would take nearly 30 years."

To regulate the medical curriculum and to guide practitioners of the allopathic system, Mysore has its own Medical Council. Registration is compulsory for all men in service. Private practitioners may register, if in return to certain restrictions on their liberties and actions, they accept the privilege of issuing certificates required by law.

It is roughly estimated that there are about 200 qualified practitioners in the State, many of them congregated in Bangalore and a few scattered in the district and taluk headquarters. Their relations with their brothers in service have been most cordial, and a fairly good number have joined the Mysore Medical Association, which till 1929 was an official body. This Association has been instrumental to a very great degree in bringing the private practitioners in touch with the clinics of the major hospitals and creating a healthy rivalry between the two sections of medical men. While no one amongst the practitioners appears to be building a fortune, a good many have just been able to keep the bailiff off. One enthusiastic young medico, a graduate of the Mysore University, has recently started a pathological and bacteriological laboratory on an up-to-date scale and has been of immense use not only to himself but to the public as well. Many have begun to wonder what further additions to their number might mean in a place where Government medical aid is "free to the poor and practically free to the rich," to such an extent that there is a danger of the poor being neglected. Even the well-to-do patients belonging to the neighbouring Provinces consider it much cheaper to seek medical aid in Mysore hospitals than in their own stations—the journey, the house-rent, the hospital and other charges put together being much cheaper than their medical attendants' fee!

A Word to the Wealthy.

Some years ago there was an idea of creating honorary appointments in the staff of some of the big hospitals, but it did not materialise, chiefly, as one understood, for want of a large number of outstanding men of experience. The average practitioner has no incentive to raise himself above the general level. The honorary system will undoubtedly raise his



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

SRINIVASA PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

efficiency, but the present order of treating all patients, rich or poor, more or less free of charge, militates against the introduction of such a system. Is it too much to hope that the wealthy classes of Mysore who have interested themselves in the problems of medical relief and made large donations towards the construction of Government hospitals and wards, will consider the necessity for private and charitable

institutions where the hidden and unused talent of the practitioner may be most advantageously used in the relief of sickness amongst the deserving poor? An organised effort by the practitioners towards the establishment of private institutions appears to be most necessary.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN MYSORE.

THE VILLAGE PANCHAYAT.

By K. Chengalaraya Reddi, M.L.C.

(*President, Kolar District Board.*)

LOCAL government, it is said, is "as old as the hills." It has thriven in one shape or another in almost every country in the world. And it has also been increasingly recognised that local self-government is a vital factor in social progress and that the village should be the unit of any sound structure of such a government. There is abundant evidence to show that Gram-Panchayats of a rich and rare type flourished in Mysore in the past as in the rest of India. But that alas, is old history! So far as the modern era goes, the village panchayats have more or less only a recent origin.

The history of village local self-government in Mysore constitutes a very interesting study and a rapid critical survey of the same is desirable if we have to seize the salient characteristics of the present position and suggest the lines on which it ought to develop. It was in the year 1862 that the first step was taken to constitute local bodies for the control of local affairs for the cities of Bangalore and Mysore. In about three years the policy was extended to all the district headquarters and by the year 1872 there were 58 municipalities. In 1874, for the first time, District Committees—the nucleus of the present District Boards—were constituted to administer local funds for certain specific purposes. All these bodies were placed on a statutory basis by the Local Boards Act of 1902 and the Municipal Regulation of 1906. Up till then, for all purposes, the unit of local administration was the city, town or district or in some cases the taluks. As in British India, the local

self-government bodies filtered down from the top instead of being built up from the bottom. It was only in 1904 that a beginning was made with some village unions—which were later followed up by the constitution of tank panchayats in 1914, village improvement committees in 1914, village forest committees in 1915, but all these had no statutory basis. It is, however, interesting to note that under the dynamic urge of Sir M. Visvesvaraya, by the year 1917, there were about 8,593 village improvement committees. Then committees and conferences followed and the first great step in the constitution of local boards and village panchayats was taken in the year 1917 during the Dewanship of Sir Albion Banerji. As a result of the legislation initiated in that year, District Boards, Taluk Boards and Village Panchayats were constituted on a statutory basis. About 245 village improvement committees were converted into village panchayats immediately and by the year 1923 there were 833 such panchayats. They were all subject to the control of the Taluk Boards which in their turn were subject to the control of the District Boards. But in the year 1925, legislation was initiated to effect some far-reaching changes in the structure of the rural local self-governing bodies and the Village Panchayat Regulation of 1926 and the District Boards' Regulation of 1926 were placed on the statute book. The main objects of the two Regulations were to constitute village panchayats on a large scale with certain definite powers and duties, the abolition of the Taluk Boards and the retention of the District Boards as independent bodies having nothing to do with village panchayats. As a result of that legislation, there are now 11,257 village panchayats and eight District Boards working in the State.

Village as Unit.

One striking feature of rural self-government in Mysore—a feature which is all to the good—is the sterling recognition of

the fact that the village should form the unit of local self-government. The Decentralisation Commission of 1909 in their report stated thus in unequivocal terms :—

"The foundation of any stable edifice which shall associate the people with the administration must be the village as being an area of much greater antiquity than administrative creations such as Tahsil, and one in which people are known to each other and have interests which converge on definite and well-recognised objects like water-supply and drainage. It is probable indeed, that scant success of the efforts hitherto made to introduce a system of rural self-government is largely due to the fact that we have not built up from the bottom."

Great Gokhale put it thus in 1912 on the floor of the Imperial Legislative Council :—

" . . . One essential condition of local self-government is that those who take part in it should possess a personal knowledge of the area under their management or at any rate, should be able to acquire that knowledge without difficulty . . . This condition can well be fulfilled in regard to village . . ."

"Therefore I think that, our real local self-government should start with villages and stop with sub-districts. The District Boards may exercise only general supervising and co-ordinating functions." And the Seal Committee on Constitutional Reforms in their report referring to the local bodies as "the parabolic lower limbs of the administration" urged with full force that "our first concern" should be to make village government real. The great and live feature of the village panchayat organisation in Mysore, is that it constitutes a sure foundation for the development of real local self-government in the State.

But that is only from the bare structural point of view. Though there are such a large number of panchayats—as many as 11,257 for a State with the area of Mysore, and comprising



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, BANGALORE.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

THE BANGALORE DISTRICT BOARD OFFICES WHICH WERE RECENTLY OPENED.

about 17,000 villages—it is worth while to look at some other vital aspects in their actual working. According to the standards laid down by Government, there are only 3,295 good panchayats, while 4,320 are classified as indifferent and 3,642 as bad. This classification is based on the basis of meetings held, taxes collected, interest evinced in developing their resources, their general managing capacity, etc. It is true that the village panchayats, taken as a whole, have accomplished many things to their credit. Their annual income and expenditure is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 9,00,000. The cash balance at their credit was Rs. 30,06,016 by the end of 1934-35 though a large sum of Rs. 40,03,640 has remained uncollected. They have built village chavadies, installed gate pillars, sunk wells, attended to medical relief, drainage and sanitation, constructed roads, and in some cases have attended to other matters such as supply of breeding bulls, improved ploughs and other agricultural implements, postal facilities, management of village forests, tanks, etc., etc., laying out of parks, fruit gardens, shade trees, village panchayat schools, libraries and reading rooms, village extensions, rural rectification, etc. These have been the tangible results of the working of the village panchayats and it cannot be said that the results are disappointing when it is borne in mind that they have been in existence for only a period of eight years.

Civic Consciousness.

But one has to judge the movement in the light of certain fundamental canons of local self-government. What has been the quantity and quality of civic consciousness displayed by the panchayats? How far have they exercised and developed the qualities of self-initiative, self-help and evinced a lively interest in the affairs of the local areas entrusted to their charge? Are their workings born out of an autonomous urge and a sense of responsibility and consciousness that they are

masters of themselves? Have they been quickened into action by a keen desire to improve their own conditions? In fine, has there been real self-government in the truest sense of the term with all its implications? It is a regrettable fact which has to be admitted that the civic consciousness displayed by the panchayats has been of a low order and a potent cause for the same is the apathy of the villager. It may be due to the fact that he is overwhelmed by his poverty and crushing indebtedness and is so absorbed in his gigantic attempts to keep his pot boiling that he does not care what happens as regards other matters. Or it may be due to his ignorance and illiteracy. It may be due to the insufficiency of the powers granted to the panchayats in things that really matter and the lack of finance to efficiently discharge the obligations entrusted to them. Or it may be due to all these causes. But the fact is there—the absence of civic consciousness and self-initiative—a feature which strikes at the root of genuine self-government.

And here we stumble on one feature of local self-government which is of paramount importance and which has a close bearing on the fostering of fruitful civic consciousness. The question of official control and official interference in the realm of local self-government has been a vexed theme all over the world and Mysore has not been an exception thereto. The great Dewan Rangacharlu, the first and foremost of his race, realised the importance of this long back when he urged that it would be proper that the *whole* of the members of the local bodies should be elected by the people, that the system of Government appointing by nomination one-half—or one-third was uncalled for and objectionable as it occasions invidious distinctions in the status of members and weakens the moral effect of the electric system and that the greatest amount of autonomy should be vested with the local bodies. But his advice was not heeded and given effect to. It is very interesting to go through a remarkable minute of Mr. Girdlestone, the

then British Resident in 1885. When a draft Mysore Local Boards Bill was sent to him for advice he said :—

"Local self-government which is the object of the Regulation will be here as elsewhere, on its trial. If it is to be anything more than a farce in which the heads of districts and taluks are to play the leading part with the *ex-officio* and officially appointed members in marked subordination, independence of action must be assured. The members will be no more than humble servants of the Deputy Commissioner or the Amildar."

And further: "To reserve indefinitely for officials the higher and most important duties is directly opposed to the idea of independent activity which underlies the whole scheme of local self-government. Local self-government here would be only in name and the scheme would be transformed again into the rule of Amildars and Deputy Commissioners." In an important India Circular issued by Lord Ripon it was stated that "it would be hopeless to expect any real development of self-government if local bodies were subject to check and interference in matters of detail . . ."

It has been very often admitted that the failure of local self-government in Mysore has been due to the prevalence of excessive official participation, official control and interference in the affairs of local bodies.

In the year 1915 the then Dewan said: "It is generally admitted that local self-government in Mysore has not progressed satisfactorily and that local bodies are not playing their legitimate rôle in the administration of the country. The apathy displayed by these bodies is attributed chiefly to a deficiency in the elected popular element and to the want of reasonable powers of control over their own funds" And again Sir Albion Banerji in 1917 said:

"A careful examination of the administration reports of the past ten years discloses the fact that owing to the preponderance

of official element and the subordination of the councils to officials, there was considerable apathy in the administration of municipal affairs."

Official Interference.

A large amount of testimony of a very high order is available to prove that the bane of local self-government in Mysore—as also in India—has been the quantity and quality of official control and what is more, interference. No doubt, control there should be and there is such control all over the world. But it should be reduced to the barest minimum and the maximum of autonomy should be given to local bodies. There can be no real democratic urge and loyalty to the electorate in the face of bureaucratic official control and interference. The foregoing remarks apply with great force to the village panchayats in the Mysore State. They are in theory autonomous non-official bodies—though not wholly elected—with provision for official supervision and control in certain spheres. But in actual working, they have been more or less the creatures of the revenue authorities. It is needless to go into details and give facts and figures to substantiate that position. Anyone who runs may read the situation. The revenue authorities were expected to extend their sympathy, give their guidance, rouse the civic consciousness of the panchayats and make them function as really autonomous bodies. But the expectations have not been realised in practice. Absence of civic consciousness on the part of the people has already been adverted to.

This is in a way the cause and the effect of the panchayats being under the perpetual dictatorship of the revenue authorities. It is a vicious circle. When the Village Panchayat Regulation, 1926, was on the anvil in the legislature, the severest onslaught against the Bill was based on the ground that the village panchayats were going to be

officialised and they would be merely sub-departments of Government and not real units of self-government. The Government spokesman of the time assured more than once and categorically stated that the official control, etc., that was provided would be only temporary and would be removed as early as possible.

Mr. K. Chandy, the Member in charge of the Bill, said :—
" What I have said on more than one occasion I wish to say again, *viz.*, that the main objection that has been raised which is that of placing the village panchayats under bureaucratic control is, I wish to say, an objection with which Government are in sympathy. But they consider that for resuscitating village life, control of officials is necessary at the preliminary stages. As was said in a leading paper of Bombay, it is a kind of artificial respiration. Civic life has almost gone out in the villages, and we are trying to see whether by this process, life could be revived. And as we see the signs of civic consciousness in the villages, it will be our pleasure as well as to the benefit of the villagers to remove the control and make it entirely non-official." And the then Dewan, Sir Albion Banerji, gave a similar assurance. The method of rousing civic consciousness by official control has proved a failure. And the control continues unabated and signs of self-government are conspicuous by their absence. The vesting of more powers in the panchayats, the granting of necessary finance by way of transferring certain present central revenues and by way of giving grants to the panchayats as was solemnly undertaken to be done at the time the Panchayat Regulation was passed and the reducing of the official control and interference to the barest minimum and thereby engendering civic consciousness and self-initiative is the vital need of the hour. Only so can the village panchayats be in spirit and substance the foundation of real local self-government as they are in structure at present as previously adverted.

There is one other feature of rural self-government which deserves mention. Barring panchayats, the District Boards are the rural local bodies at the other end. Their work is mainly, if not solely, confined to rural areas. But there is absolutely no correlation of work of the village panchayats to that of the District Boards. There is no co-ordination of work between the two types of bodies. This aspect of the matter was brought into prominent notice by the legislature in 1925 when the Panchayat Bill and the District Boards' Bill were being considered. While the force of the same was recognised, no attempts were made to set right the same beyond stating that the matter will have to be considered later after the "artificial respiration" injected into the panchayats by official efforts would be metamorphosed into normal respiration. The matter stands where it was. There is a plea that village panchayats should be placed under the *control* of the District Board. But that is untenable. If there should be no official control over local bodies ordinarily, equally so one local body should have no control over another local body. A non-official hierarchy of local self-governing bodies would not be conducive to the best interests of democracy. A wide democratic constitution and complete autonomy of panchayats can only be attained by making the local bodies federal and not gradational in their character. How this is to be done is a matter of supreme importance for the healthy functioning of not merely the District Boards but the village panchayats as well. The complete hiatus that exists now between them is really deplorable.

A Good Augury.

It is a matter of good augury that there are no communal confusions in the realm of village panchayats though there may be traces of the same in the District Boards in the sense that they crop up during election times but subside in the sphere of actual administration. It is also a matter of great

consolation that the ugly head of party strife and bickerings whipped up not for civic advantage but for personal or party considerations has not risen in the local bodies of Mysore. Another noteworthy feature is the comparatively honest and less strenuous efforts in the matter of election and the general prevalence of honesty and integrity in the actual administration. These are features on which Mysore can congratulate herself. But there are drawbacks, as already pointed out, in the matter of sphere of work, finance, autonomy and limit of official control. It would be profitable to quote the Right Honourable H. Hobhouse in this connection. In a paper on Local Self-Government and State Bureaucracy in Great Britain he has stated: "Local affairs are best administered locally, because local knowledge is essential to meet the varying circumstances of different districts; that the greatest advantage of devolving large powers on local bodies is undoubtedly the encouragement of local public spirit and the more important the functions devolved, the more likely you are to get public-spirited men to give time and money to local administration; that when the central bureaucracy encumbers itself by constant interference with the details of local administration it assumes functions which are not only unnecessary but in the long run injurious to the public spirit."

The above remarks are very appropriate and apply with great force to the local bodies of the State in general and the village panchayats in particular. But there is no cause for despair or despondency. The intentions of the successive illustrious Dewans of Mysore have been to build a stable edifice of local self-government in Mysore with the village as the unit. And His Highness the Maharaja has declared :—

"It is the ambition of my life to see the people of my State develop self-sustaining qualities, exhibit initiative and enterprise and take front rank in all progressive movements and activities in this country."

These gracious words contain in essence a promise and a pledge which the people treasure and one can be sure that the administration will be directed in such a way as to implement the above declaration in the realm of local self-government.

CO-OPERATION IN MYSORE.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND POSSIBILITIES.

By E. N. Natesan, M.A.

(*Survey of India.*)

MYSORE may fairly claim to be the cradle of "co-operation in India." Besides being the peculiar "home of the sandalwood and silk--land of holy rivers and mighty falls—the special haunt of the elephant"—in every department she claims pre-eminence. In fine arts she has marvellous examples of architecture. In the great and noble art of giving relief and succour to the needy and poorer classes, one cannot but be struck at the remarkable progress made during the last thirty years.

It was in 1904 that the co-operative movement in the State was organised. Since then, it has gone on growing from year to year till from five societies with a membership of 362 and a working capital of roughly 14,000, the number has increased to nearly 2,000 societies having on their rolls a lakh and a half members and counting a working capital approximating two and a half crores of rupees. This is no mean achievement. But viewed from the point of view of the aim of the movement and its immense possibilities, co-operation has, of course, still much headway to make. The percentage of population to come within the influence of co-operation is roughly 11·1 when compared to 9·5 for Madras, 9 for Baroda and 22 for Travancore. More than half the number of villages in the State are still outside the movement altogether.

The progress of the movement has not been uniform in all districts of the State. It has two separate regions, each of

which has well-marked and distinctive features. "Malnad—land of magnificent hills and forests with human dwellings few and far between—a cottage here and there hidden amid plantations of areca palm and plantains marking the homestead of a farmer and his family,"—always presented the greatest difficulty in the rapid expansion of the movement. The development has been more satisfactory in regions where climatic conditions are favourable, tracts well populated and means of communication well developed.

AGRICULTURAL RELIEF.

The original intention and policy of the movement have always been in India and in Mysore to strengthen agricultural credit, finance the basic industry and lighten the burden of rural indebtedness by increased facilities for credit and hence the predominance of agricultural credit societies in Mysore nearly to the extent of 87·4 of the total number.

Apart from cheap credit and easy terms of payment, the real solution of agricultural indebtedness everywhere lies in the improvement of the repaying capacity of the agriculturist. In this direction the co-operative movement in Mysore especially, has immense potentialities and the Government have always been alive to the problem. As long back as 1894, that eminent statesman Sir K. Seshadri Aiyar, whom Sir W. W. Hunter described as one who had given his head to Herbert Spencer and his heart to Para Brahma, introduced a comprehensive scheme of agricultural banks. To a large extent, his scheme anticipated the co-operative movement of the later days and if it had been properly worked and loyally carried out, it would have laid a sure foundation for the modern co-operative ideas in regard to agricultural banks. Even though the progress of the banks was retarded then by severe distress, and general depression in trade and business, the far-sighted statesmanship of the originator of the scheme

could not be questioned, nor the progress made in regard to strengthening the agricultural resources could be belittled.

Since then the question of the agriculturists' debt relief has loomed large and formed the subject of various inquiries by successive administrations and in 1920 the Government appointed the Samaldas Committee to review the progress made by the co-operative movement in the State. This Committee's report led to the inauguration of the Land Mortgage Branch of the co-operative movement. The scheme is being rapidly extended and it is in operation in twenty-five taluks with one Central Land Mortgage Bank and 19 primary societies. Investigations are proceeding for hastening the cautious extension to 14 other taluks as well. The working of the Bank since its inception is under the very able guidance of *Diwan Bahadur* K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar as its president. The Department and the Bank have been doing their utmost to popularise the scheme. Ways are also being sought to reduce interest rates. The Bank's debentures are quoted at a premium in the market. The entire scheme is still young and it is this institution that will have ultimately to take over the debts of the agriculturists and become the main, if not the sole, creditors of the rural population.

With a view to improve the earning power of the agriculturist, the Government have from time to time adopted various means. Improved methods of agriculture is a big plank in their programme. Reorganisation of village panchayats with a view to the adoption of more intensive efforts in the matter of rural welfare has been very recently effected. It has been decided "that a certain number of villages in each district be selected for special attention by the development departments concerned and various items of work, settled with reference to local needs and facilities and to the funds available, taken up and carried out under proper official guidance and responsibility and with suitable money grants, so that these villages

may eventually serve as examples of what good panchayat administration should be." Subsidiary occupations have been created wherever feasible and amenities of town life have been introduced to villages by the rapid extension of rural electrification scheme.

The movement has not made much headway in the industrial field. There are only 90 societies, out of 2,000 societies, for handloom weavers, sericulturists, metal workers and the like. Competition and fall in prices have very seriously affected them. The movement has a very important part to play in the revival and development of village industries. A detailed scheme of revival has been thought out and is about to be put in operation by special measures of help on the part of the Government. Since the year 1919, as part of the scheme of the development of the weaving industry in the State, large sums of money have been placed at the disposal of the Registrar to be advanced to co-operative societies for purchasing yarn and other materials and for making suitable marketing arrangements. Quite recently the Provincial Apex Bank has assisted the Bangalore Weavers' Society by a large cash credit and Government has supplemented the same by granting a monthly subvention, besides placing expert advice and guidance at their disposal.

Co-operative Edifice.

With the rapid development of agricultural credit societies, the necessity for a special agency to finance them arose and Central Banks came into being at a very early stage of the movement in Mysore. The Bangalore Central Co-operative Bank was established in 1908 to take up this finance along with financing of individuals. Up to 1915 several District Banks and Federal Banking Unions were started—all of them quite independent, self-contained and unconnected with any provincial institutions. These worked more or less on parallel

lines. For an area like Mysore, it was considered that it should be possible for one Central Bank with provincial jurisdiction to undertake the financing of all the co-operative institutions and the District Banks were superfluous, for, while themselves starving, they would a great deal interrupt the free flow of capital into provincial institutions.

Accordingly the Government directed the gradual winding up of these institutions. It was in 1915 that the chief financing centre, the Provincial Co-operative Apex Bank, was registered. To answer to correct co-operative principles, this institution was considered a necessity and, thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of the then Registrar, it grew rapidly. To avoid a conflict between two provincial institutions, the Government limited the operation of each to four districts. Attempts were made to amalgamate but with no success and finally, on the recommendations of the Samaldas Committee, the Government ordered in 1925 the conversion of the Provincial Apex Bank as the sole central institution. The Bank's credit stands high in the money market. It has not found itself wanting in funds. The general depression has seriously affected the position of the primary societies and consequently the income and transactions of the Bank. The Bank has stood the strain very well.

The problem of overdues is confronting every co-operator and to check the growth of overdues the Apex Bank has taken vigorous steps to collect the outstandings, while at the same time giving relief by reducing the rates, even on loans which had been lent at higher rates.

The Department has always been working in close co-operation with the Bank in all the measures adopted. Very recently elaborate investigations have been started by the Department to scrutinise the dues of each indebted society, and ascertain the nature of the existing securities, so as to help the financing Bank. The Bank is still short of being a full federation of the

primary societies in the State as more than fifty per cent of them and specially the urban ones have kept themselves away from it. The Department is working for a better understanding so as to make the institution a real balancing centre. The recent Committee on Co-operation have made elaborate recommendations in regard to the constitution and working details of the Bank and these are under the consideration of the Government.

URBAN BANKS.

Co-operation in Mysore has extended itself vigorously to urban areas and is being successfully applied for their benefit. Urban banking has, in fact, made noteworthy progress. The Banks are very popular and are materially contributing to encourage habits of thrift and saving. The very first co-operative society to be started in the State was an urban institution. The urban societies are, with a few exceptions, all well organised, well managed and financially quite strong. They have sufficient funds of their own. They have all got good reserves forming a sixth of the working capital and a large percentage of the same has been invested outside.

The following are a few institutions among the largest urban Banks in the State: the Bangalore City Co-operative Bank, Mysore City Co-operative Bank, Malleswaram Co-operative Bank and Shimoga Co-operative Bank.

These institutions form fair examples of truly autonomous bodies and good schools for teaching self-government. Elections to the boards are fought with much keenness and vigour and the constitution of the directorate is mixed, containing persons of different callings and different positions of life. Depressed classes are freely admitted and women form a fairly large percentage of their membership. In some of the institutions it is a real treat to be present at the annual and half-yearly meetings where the board of management are subjected to a

strong and severe cross fire, where their reports are discussed, criticised and commented upon before they are adopted. The weak points in the administration are all dragged out thread-bare. Indeed the adoption of the report and the balance sheet forms the liveliest part of the proceedings.

On the whole, the urban movement in the State has been properly founded and capable of wide and useful development. The stage has already arrived when, under the guidance of the Department, it would be well if the different institutions could make some provision for the co-ordination of their activities, promotion of common interests through mutual consultation, periodical conference of office-bearers and a federation of various societies into a consultative body. A voluntary organisation on the above lines has already been organised in Mysore City to study the various aspects of the co-operative movement. Its working is being watched with interest.

Non-Credit Activities.

The State's attention will have to be in the near future directed towards encouraging crop loans under due safeguards, organisation of separate loans and sale societies, extension of marketing facilities for commercial crops and industrial products. They may have to make liberal grants for the building or hiring of warehouses in trade centres. The formation of a central areca sale co-operative society with branches over the area growing areca is an absolute necessity. The Agricultural Department is bestowing attention on helping by improved seeds and implements. The Department of Industries and Commerce and that of Sericulture are considering the provision of adequate marketing facilities, the rehabilitation of the weavers' societies, and organising of the co-operative reeling activities and, in short, a great drive towards an all-round progress in the State is already being planned.

This land of enchantment and enlightenment is certain to become a land of biggest enterprises ere long. The steadily growing change from agricultural life to the industrial life discernible in the rest of India has already found its counterpart and response in the general life of the State and the State has done its best to give industrialisation a more rapid pace and provide means of subsistence to the growing population which could not possibly be absorbed by mere agriculture with its many limitations and handicaps and this industrialisation is to be undertaken and organised in the true spirit and according to correct principles of co-operation.

Mysore was first in the field in the matter of co-operative house building. House building co-operation has received at the hands of the Government every encouragement for the past several years. There are more than twenty-five house building societies doing good work. Recently a sum of three lakhs was placed at the disposal of the Bangalore House Building Society and Apex Bank at a low rate of interest for financing house building operations.

The Bangalore Housing Society, a premier organisation in the State, with an influential directorate, has already given a great lead in the matter of helping the members by type designs, providing adequate funds and obtaining from the municipality favourable concessions in the formation of streets, provision of drainage, water-supply, lighting and other municipal services. Besides this aid, several urban credit institutions have also advanced very large sums for purchase and improvement of houses in their own areas.

Any one who has had the opportunity to see the working of Lalithadripur Village Co-operative Society near Mysore will be struck with the remarkable all-round progress made in a rural area, due to the munificent patronage of H. H. the Maharaja and his keen interest in its working.

Consumer's Co-operation.

The consumer's movement has made appreciable progress chiefly in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore. The store is a growing institution in the State. The turnover of the store societies amounted to Rs. 27 lakhs last year.

Mysore shares with Madras the honour, with pride and satisfaction, in achieving considerable success in running store societies. Sentiment, facility and economic advantage are the three factors that promote loyalty of members and these are present in a very large measure in Mysore. The combination of banking and trading has led to this success. Some of the stores societies produce several of the goods which they sell. The idea of having one strong central organisation in the State with the advantage of wholesale purchases, is being recognised and details for the same are being worked out.

Depressed Classes.

In the matter of amelioration of depressed classes, Government have always placed at the disposal of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies large sums of money. Assistance is given towards the provision of sanitary houses for these classes through house building societies. Colony schemes have been encouraged. Improved agricultural implements and seeds have been in some cases supplied at half cost.

The Mysore Propagandist Institute was organised in 1924 on the lines of the institutions in Madras and Bombay. Under its auspices, an annual provincial conference is convened during the Dasara and it is attended by a large gathering of delegates and visitors, at which various topics are discussed. Government is liberally supporting the Institute by a subvention.

The Department has embarked on a vigorous policy of consolidation and rectification, conjointly with a policy of cautious acceleration of the pace of the advance, in organisation

and development. The systematisation of the work of the departmental staff, its better training, closer supervision and control over the work of the societies, the rapid weeding out of all bad societies and unhealthy elements and making the necessary changes in the laws governing the societies are some of the objects to which the Department of Co-operation, under its able and enthusiastic head Mr. G. M. Mekhri, is devoting its main attention.

In the course of thirty years, two stock-takings of the movement have already taken place, one by the Samaldas Committee of 1923* and the other one of last year under the chairmanship of *Diwan Bahadur* Chandrasekhara Aiyar. Government have very generously and expeditiously carried out the recommendations made by the first committee, while those of the latter one are under their active consideration.

A Bright Future.

Mysore has built a big movement, big in its possibilities, big in the numbers that have already joined it, big in the creation of a large army of workers, officials and non-officials who have enlisted under its banner, with noble ideals and spirit of service and big, certainly in its fine structure of co-operative credit.

The harmonious co-ordination of working between the non-official and the official, which is an indispensable factor in steering safely the co-operative ship in the uncertain waters ahead, is fortunately present in Mysore in the ideal conditions prevailing here.

Co-operation in Mysore has a great and glorious future. H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore is really a father to his people and takes the greatest personal interest in all activities calculated to secure their happiness and welfare. H. H. the

* The report was received by the Government only in December 1928.

Yuvaraja has always been a staunch patron and supporter of the co-operative movement ever since its inception in the State. His stirring speeches and messages, whenever he graciously opens conferences and presides over celebrations, have always been a source of great encouragement and inspiration to all co-operators.

The Dewan of the State, Sir Mirza M. Ismail, is actuated with the keenest desire to make Mysore take the lead in all progressive movements, tending to improve the economic condition of the people. He has recognised very early in his high office that no financial stringency, however serious, should be allowed to retard the development of co-operation in Mysore, as he is convinced that the real and lasting solution of the State's welfare lies only in the co-operative movement.

In the gracious message of H. H. the Maharaja given a few years ago "Co-operation is another word for brotherhood and brotherhood is the index of character and basis of nationhood. There is therefore one simple way to make Mysore great and that is to let the spirit of co-operation permeate every activity of its people."

MYSORE FINANCES.

AN ERA OF PROGRESS.

(*Specially contributed.*)

A BRIEF review has been made in this article so as to give a general retrospect of the position of the finances of the Mysore State in the decennium ending with 1935-36. The year 1926-27 which is the starting year of the decennium was one of deficit, the gross revenue during that year being about 339 lakhs and the net expenditure charged to revenue about 348 lakhs. The revenue has advanced during the decade by about 47 lakhs and the net expenditure by about 36 lakhs. An examination of the figures indicates that the increase in revenue is partly contributed by the excise duty on matches and sugar and the betting tax which are new sources of revenue and partly by the additional revenue derived from the Kolar Gold Fields mining companies on account of royalty on gold and income-tax, additional interest due to larger investments and increase in receipts under Krishnarajasagara Hydro-Electric and Irrigation Works on account of expansion. The large additions to the State Debt including accretions to State Life Insurance and Provident Funds, Savings Bank Deposits, etc., the growth in the pension charges and larger expenditure incurred on items of Protection, *viz.*, Courts of Law, Police, Medical and Public Health are responsible for the growth in expenditure. It may be mentioned that the subsidy to British Government was reduced by 10½ lakhs from the year 1928-29.

THE EFFECT OF DEPRESSION.

The years 1927-28 to 1929-30 showed small surpluses, and the position of equilibrium between revenue and

expenditure that was being maintained during these three years was upset in 1930-31 by a substantial decline under some of the important heads of revenue due to severe trade and economic depression, the fall in revenue being as large as 43 lakhs while the increase in the net expenditure charged to revenue was about 19 lakhs. Thus, the results of the Revenue Account in the year 1930-31 showed a deficit of about 62 lakhs requiring prompt and careful measures to restore the budgetary equilibrium without seriously dislocating the administrative machinery. A committee was constituted by Government with a view to explore the possibility of economies and of improvement of revenues and to suggest ways and means for establishing the position of financial equilibrium. As a result of the comprehensive and searching examination of the finances made by the committee, several measures of retrenchment involving lakhs of rupees, reduction or abolition of allowances, revision of rules applicable to travelling allowance and contingent expenditure were promptly ordered and in addition an emergency reduction in the salaries of the Government servants involving annual savings of about 6 lakhs was also ordered. Measures to improve the revenue resources were also simultaneously undertaken. His Highness the Maharaja and the members of the Ruling Family graciously contributed their quota in easing the financial position and earned the gratitude of the subjects. The revenue which was the lowest in 1930-31 gradually began to advance together with a simultaneous reduction in expenditure as a result of the several measures of retrenchment adopted, and the year 1935-36 showed an improvement of Rs. 53½ lakhs over the level of 1930-31 and the expenditure a decline of about 11½ lakhs. The deficit which stood at about 62 lakhs during 1930-31 was gradually reduced and disappeared during 1935-36. As the position showed signs of improvement, the emergency cut in salaries of Government servants was completely restored from

July 1936, but, to husband the financial resources of the State the economy measures undertaken in several directions are still continued.

There has been steady progress in revenue without resort to additional taxation and the expenditure programme is being carefully regulated with reference to the total revenue after setting apart necessary contribution to the Loan Sinking Fund and Depreciation Funds. The resources available are being spent in the best possible manner for the development of the various activities of Government and the Nation-Building Departments.

NATION-BUILDING ACTIVITIES.

The development of the economic resources of the State has been one of the most important objects of the financial policy and works of large magnitude have been undertaken in pursuance of it. The following are some of the important works taken up during the decennium ending with 1935-36 :—

RAILWAYS.

(1) Construction of a railway from Shimoga to Sagar (about 50 miles). Railway line from Shimoga to Anandapuram already opened for traffic.

ELECTRICAL.

(2) Electrification of a large number of towns and villages ; (3) Power supply for irrigation pumps, industrial concerns, etc., at favourable rates ; (4) Expansion of the telephone system in the Bangalore and Mysore cities.

IRRIGATION.

(5) Construction of the Irwin Canal in the Krishnarajasagara with a view to develop irrigation in the K. R. S. area to the extent of about 1,20,000 acres and several other channels and tanks.

INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS.

(6) Porcelain Factory; (7) Silk-weaving Factory; (8) Factory for the production of electrical materials; (9) Industrial and Testing Laboratory; (10) Installation of a plant at the Mysore Iron Works for the manufacture of steel; (11) Factory for the manufacture of cement; (12) Mysore Sugar Factory; (13) Mysore Paper Mills; (14) Mysore Spun Silk Mills—run as joint-stock concerns.

OTHER WORKS.

(15) Scheme for the supply of water to the Bangalore City and Civil and Military Station; (16) Extension of tobacco cultivation.

The State has spent about Rs. 117 lakhs on tanks and irrigation out of the ordinary revenue during the last ten years.

THE DEBT POSITION OF THE STATE.

5. It may not be out of place to make a passing reference to the debt position of the State. The total debt which was about 5 crores in the beginning of 1926-27 has now risen to about 9 crores, *i.e.*, an increase of about four crores. The unfunded debt has also increased by about 2½ crores of rupees. As against this, however, the total amount spent on capital undertakings has increased by about 5 crores and the total investments show an improvement of about 1½ crores. The net interest charges during 1935-36 amount to Rs. 36 lakhs, while the net revenue from the productive works (after providing for the depreciation of the fixed assets) is Rs. 53 lakhs. A sinking fund has been built up from the revenue account for the redemption of the public loans on the due dates, and with regard to unfunded debt, etc., adequate reserves in a liquid condition are maintained.

6. During 1935-36, the State discharged its Sterling Debt of £1,200,000 which had been raised in London in 1886. Opportunity was taken by Government of the easy money conditions prevailing in 1933-34 and 1934-35 and conversion operation of loans bearing higher rates of interest into one carrying lower rate of interest was also undertaken with a view to reduce the burden of interest charges on the finances of the State. It may be mentioned that the Mysore Government securities are very popular not only in the State itself but also throughout the whole of India. Various facilities for payment of interest, etc., on these securities have been afforded

throughout India and the loans, some of which are current from the year 1920, are quoted at high premiums and are in great demand by investors in the different markets.

7. Of the several problems that are confronting the State at present, Federation, the retrocession of the Civil and Military Station and the abolition of the annual subsidy of Rs. 24½ lakhs to the Government of India which is a heavy burden to the State and stands in the way of a more rapid progress in the activities of Government, are perhaps some of the important ones. There is no doubt that the State will handle these problems in all the stages with its usual thoroughness and bring them to a satisfactory conclusion.

8. It may be said to the credit of the State and its administrators that the State has been marching on sure and steady lines in the evolution of a policy designed to raise standards in the moral, material, industrial and economic life of the country and in promoting the material well-being, the means of living and the prosperity of its subjects.

RAILWAYS IN MYSORE.

METHODS OF MEETING MOTOR COMPETITION.

By H. Rangachar, M.A.

(*District Traffic Superintendent, Mysore Railways, and Secretary to Mysore Traffic Board.*)

THE State of Mysore is provided with a network of railways, serving the different parts of the Province. The main trunk line runs from south to north, from Chamarajnagar in the south *via* Mysore, Bangalore, Tumkur to Harihar in the north where it joins the metre gauge line of the M. & S. M. Railway to Poona *via* Hubli and Belgaum. The Mysore-Arsikere line is a chord line connecting by a shorter route the two main line stations of Mysore and Arsikere. From Birur, a station on the Chamarajnagar-Harihar main line, branches off the Birur-Shimoga-Anandapuram Railway which serves the malnad tracts in the north-western part of Mysore. From Bangalore, branches off the Bangalore-Hindupur line which joins at the last mentioned place, the Hindupur-Guntakal Section of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

Of the 787 miles of railways in Mysore, 607 miles are owned by the State, and 55 miles forming part of the Madras-Bangalore broad gauge section, by the Government of India. Of the remaining 125 miles, the construction of 33 miles has been financed by District Boards, 54 miles partly by Government and partly by District Boards and 38 miles by the Government and a private company incorporated in the State, *viz.*, the Bangalore-Chikballapur Light Railway Company.

The State Railway Department works 460 miles of railways including the 125 miles already referred to, while the M. & S. M.

Railway works nearly 262 miles of the main line railways consisting of the Bangalore-Harihar and the Bangalore-Hindupur sections and the 10 miles of the K. G. F. branch line. Of the system worked by the Mysore Government, Railways, 321 miles are on the metre gauge, 103 miles on the 2 feet 6 inches gauge, and 36 miles on the 2 feet gauge; the lines worked by the M. & S. M. Railway Company are on metre gauge except for the 10 miles of the Kolar Gold Field Railway which is on broad gauge.

The terms on which the M. & S. M. Railways work the main State lines are generally analogous to those on which the Government of India State lines are worked by the Company. According to these, the Mysore State lines are to be worked by the Company as a separate system, distinct from their railways in British India, the cost of management being apportioned on the basis of gross earnings. The Company is to get the working expenses and interest at 4 per cent on its capital, *viz.*, £1,200,000. The State receives also interest at the same rate on the capital provided by it since 1st January 1908, the date from which the subsisting contract is in force. Of the net earnings, 95 per cent is the share of the Government and 5 per cent that of the Company. The currency of the contract is for a period of 30 years, except in the case of the, K. G. F. line where the contract is terminable at six months notice on either side.

Except in the case of the Nanjangud-Chamarajnagar line which is worked for a fixed percentage, *viz.*, 70 per cent of gross receipts, the other District Board and Company lines are worked by the State generally on the following terms:—

(i) The Government guarantee interest at 4 per cent on the capital provided by the District Board or the Company.

(ii) Of the surplus receipts that remain after deducting the working expenses and guaranteed interest from gross receipts half goes to Government as guarantors of interest and the

other half is shared between the Government and the District Board or the Company in the ratio of the capital contributed by each.

(iii) The Government have in all cases the option of purchasing the interests of the District Board or the Company at specified periods or under certain stipulated contingencies at terms fixed in each case.

History and Finance of Mysore Railway Construction.

The capital at charge on all the State lines including that provided by District Boards and Companies is nearly 6·1 crores of rupees. A noteworthy feature of the finance of the railway construction in Mysore is that most of the railways have been constructed by State agency out of revenues of the State. The first State Railway to be constructed in Mysore was the Bangalore-Channapatna section, the work on which was begun in 1877 as a measure of famine relief. The Bangalore-Mysore section and the Bangalore-Gubbi section opened for traffic in 1882 and 1884 respectively, were financed out of current revenues and were worked by the State till 1st July 1886, when the working of it was transferred to the Southern Mahratta Railway Company. The section from Gubbi to Harihar was constructed by this Company out of a guaranteed loan raised by the Company. The loan has been discharged in the current year. The Mysore-Nanjangud section was constructed by the Company out of the capital provided by the current revenues of the State. The Yeswantapur-Harihar section, the K. G. F. Railway, and the Birur-Shimoga branch were constructed by the State out of their funds and opened for traffic in 1893, 1894 and 1899 respectivey.

After 1899 there was a lull in railway activity and it was not till 1912 that a State Railway Department with a big programme of construction was established. Between 1912

and 1918 were constructed the Mysore-Arsikere Railway, the narrow gauge section between Bangalore and Bowringpet, and the Tarikere-Narasimharajpur Tramway, adding to the railway system of Mysore a mileage of 232 miles. Subsequent additions to the railways have been the Chikjajur-Chitaldrug line, the Nanjangud-Chamarajnagar line, and the Shimoga-Anandapur line opened for traffic in 1921, 1926 and 1930 to 1934, respectively. Thus, out of 731 miles of railways in the State, 560 miles have been constructed by the State and 172 by the Southern Mahratta Railway Company; the construction of 575 miles has been financed by Government and 147 miles by a loan raised by the Southern Mahratta Railway Company. With the discharge of the loan during the current year, the Government owns practically all the railways in the State except the 55 miles of the Madras-Bangalore section.

Effects of Trade Depression and Motor Competition.

In common with other railways of India, the railways in Mysore have also suffered a large diminution in the volume of traffic and earnings, on account of the general trade depression and competition by motor transport. In the year 1928-29, the gross earnings of the lines worked by the M. & S. M. Railway were Rs. 49·82 lakhs, and of the lines worked by the State Rs. 38·45 lakhs or a total of Rs. 88·27 lakhs, while the total earnings for 1934-35 have been 70·49 lakhs. Thus, during the seven years there has been a fall in earnings of Rs. 17·78 lakhs, Rs. 10·88 lakhs on M. & S. M. Railway lines and 6·90 lakhs on lines worked by the State, or of nearly 20 per cent of the total railway earnings.

Measures Adopted to Meet Motor Competition.

To arrest the fall in earnings, the railways have adopted several measures calculated to improve the nature and the

quality of their service. A large number of fast "shuttle trains," suited to the needs of short-distance passengers has been introduced, particularly between competitive points. The speed of some important trains has been accelerated. The mail trains running between Bangalore and Mysore do the journey in 3½ hours against the 4 hours 5 minutes, prior to 1st April 1935. The Mysore-Bangalore line is on a ruling gradient of 1 in 70, with many sharp curves, not compensated, and further substantial acceleration in speed is not possible unless the grades and curves are eased. Some progress is being made in this direction every year and a comprehensive scheme for the purpose is under consideration.

To enable a much larger number of persons to avail of the railway service and to combat the motor transport by offering, to the limited extent the position of the railways permit, the advantage of door to door transport, the Mysore Railways introduced a system of fast shuttle trains, stopping at "intermediate halts," close to important villages between stations on the railway line and picking up and setting down passengers. At all these halts, short inexpensive rail-level platforms have been provided. There is no separate establishment and the guard of the shuttle books the passengers. This system which was introduced as an experiment in the Bangalore-Mysore section has been such a success, that it is being extended to all parts of the System. This has been a means of getting back to the railways a fairly large portion of the traffic they had lost.

The Mysore Railways were the first railway to try the system of "Travel as you please" tickets which enables a passenger to travel at cheap fares anywhere and as many times as he pleases during a fixed period. For first and second class, there is a system of 10 day return tickets throughout the year, at one and a half times the single fare. The second class fares charged on the Mysore Railways, *viz.*, 8 pies per

mile for single journey and 6 pies per return journey, are amongst the lowest in India. Recently the Mysore Railways abolished the inter class and reduced the second class fares almost to the level of that class. The Mysore Railways issue cheap third class return tickets at $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the single fare on festive occasions like the Dasara. Through tickets at reduced rates are also issued from important stations on M. & S. M. and S. I. Railways, during the Dasara.

Reduction of Fares and Freights

The Mysore Railways have been trying for some time a policy of drastic reduction in fares and rates, with a view to attract traffic. The third class passenger fares on the narrow gauge section between Bangalore and Bowringpet, where competition by motor transport was severe, were reduced from $3\frac{1}{4}$ pies per mile to $2\frac{1}{2}$ pies per mile with effect from 1st January 1935. The experiment met with success almost from the start and there was an appreciable increase in passenger traffic. The number of passengers carried on the section during 1935 was 771,941 against the 563,831 of 1934, showing an increase of 38 per cent, while passenger receipts were Rs. 1,85,231 against Rs. 1,70,694 of 1934, yielding an increased revenue of 3·5 per cent. Thus, a reduction of 23 per cent in fares has increased the volume of traffic to such an extent as to make up the loss consequent on reduction and yield additional revenue of 3·5 per cent. On the Mysore-Chamarajnagar Section also, the third class fares were reduced from $3\frac{1}{2}$ pies per mile to $2\frac{1}{2}$ pies, from 1st January 1935. Though, due to introduction of a pilgrim tax on railway passengers to and from Nanjangud, the most important station on the section, the passengers did not derive the full benefit of this reduction, yet, during the year 1935, the number of passengers increased by 26 per cent but the revenue fell short of the previous year's earnings by 6 per cent.

Emboldened by the success which has attended the policy of reduction in fares, the Mysore Railways reduced, with effect from 1st February 1936, the rates on commodities such as grains and seeds, flour, potatoes, onions, jaggery, charcoal, to a basic rate of 0·3 pies per maund per mile and waived the terminal charges. Even during the short period this experiment has been in force, traffic has been increasing and it may confidently be expected that it would prove a success. The experience of Mysore Railways thus demonstrates that a policy of a liberal reduction in rates and fares particularly on short-distance traffic on sections on which there is effective motor competition is commercially a very sound one.

Co-ordination of Road-Rail Traffic.

The Road Traffic and Taxes Regulation came into force with effect from 1st January, 1936. The object of this Regulation has been to place the motor transport on a sound and economic basis so that it may be an efficient member of the system of public transport in the country and to secure, in the public interests, a co-ordination between railways and road traffic. For administering the Regulation and the Rules in this connection, a central authority called the Mysore Traffic Board, composed of officials and non-officials, representatives of Railways, Motors, General Transport, Agriculture, Industries, Trade and Commerce, has been established. This Board has been by Statute charged with the "general duty" of so exercising its powers "as to secure the provision of an adequate and properly co-ordinated system of public service motor transport and for that purpose, while avoiding the provision of unnecessary and wasteful competitive services, to take from time to time such steps as it considers necessary for extending and improving the facilities for such transport in such manner as to provide most efficiently and conveniently for the need thereof."

In regard to the motor services competing with railways, the Rules have, on the basic principles of not depriving the public of the great benefits of motor transport and of eliminating wasteful and uneconomic competition, provided for the Board to grant a monopoly of motor bus services on roads running close and parallel to the railways. Such services are subject to the control of the Board, like other public motor services and are subject to same taxes. According to this, the Mysore Railways have, with effect from 1st January of this year, established, as an experimental measure, bus services on the Shimoga-Sagar road. The railways have put on this service high speed Diesel engine buses and the fares charged vary from four to five pies per mile. During the six months ending with the 30th June 1936, these buses have earned Rs. 13,200, apart from the increased revenue to the Shimoga-Anandapur section of the railway. The railways have, after deducting working expenses and making ample provision for depreciation, etc., derived a return of over 10 per cent on the capital invested. The policy of the railway running its own buses has proved a success both from the point of view of finance and of convenience to the public.

The new system of regulation and control of traffic is expected further to stabilise and improve the conditions of motor transport and a hope may be expressed that the day is not distant when, adopting the words of the resolution of the International Chamber of Commerce on Co-ordination, "a close collaboration between rail and road" is established "dovetailing these two types of transport where required" and "organising a combined transport on the cheapest and simplest basis possible."

The Policy of New Railway Constructions.

The altered conditions brought about by the advent of motor transport have necessitated a change in policy in regard to the

construction of new railways. Nowadays the provision of new railways is not justified unless the traffic offering is too heavy for motor transport to cope with. The Government of Mysore had several schemes of railway construction and the traffic prospects of all of these have been re-examined. It is found that, with the exception of the "southern connection" to connect the system of Mysore Railways with the South Indian Railways, no other line is likely to pay for the present. Some of the District Boards had been levying a railway cess with a view to finance the railway development in their area; the three Districts of Kadur, Tumkur and Chitaldrug have accumulated a cess of more than 30 lakhs of rupees. As the investment of this amount in railways is not likely to yield any return, the Government have made the necessary change in the law permitting the cess and the interest thereon being utilised on improving and constructing other means of communications such as roads, bridges, etc. To enable the Boards to recoup the interest and maintenance charges, *ad hoc* tolls may be established and a monopoly of motor transport exercised on such roads by District Roards.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

(i) The main line railway system of Mysore terminates, as a blind end, at Chamarajnagar in the south, about 11 miles from the frontier of the State. A few miles away from the frontier lie the fertile tracts of Coimbatore, Nilgiri and Malabar Districts and the metre gauge and broad gauge system of the South Indian Railway. There is a large volume of trade between the southern parts of Mysore covered by Chamarajnagar, T.-Narsipur, Gundlupet Taluks, and Yelandur Jahagir and the parts of Madras Presidency above referred to. The extension of the Mysore Railway system in the south so as to connect Chamarajnagar with the metre gauge of the South Indian Railway system will not only give a very great impetus

to the trade between the two areas but provides the shortest through metre gauge connection between Mysore and other parts of India, north of Mysore Province and South India, to the benefit of the commerce of the country. A Kannada proverb refers to "reaching Malabar rounding Konkan" as an example of a circumlocutory journey, as fruitless as it is futile. The railway position in this part of the country provides as close an analogue to this as is practicable under the present-day circumstances. The following table of comparative distances is not without significance :—

Station	Distance by road	Distance by existing roads	Distance by the proposed railway if constructed
Chamarajnagar to Coimbatore	89	384	97
Mysore to Ootacamund ...	100	399	153
Mysore to Calicut	131	472	244

There is a proposal to construct a metre gauge railway between Palni, a station on the Pollachi-Dindigul line and Satyamangalam *via* Tiruppur. If this project materialises, a connection between Chamarajnagar and Satyamangalam will provide the shortest connection between the metre gauge systems of Mysore and South Indian Railways. If not, the next best alternative is a railway between Chamarajnagar and Mettupaliyam with a third rail on the present Podanur-Mettupaliyam section. Such a connection is a necessary and logical extension of the railway systems of the country and it is a matter for regret that, though this question of a "southern connection" has been under consideration for over three decades and several surveys have been made, the construction of the line is not yet decided upon. It is to be earnestly hoped

9

that the proposed railway providing the shortest through metre gauge connection between North and South India will soon be constructed to the benefit of the country as a whole.

(ii) An examination of the Mysore Railway map shows that the railway line in the north-western part of Mysore is very close to the west coast, and yet the Mysore Railways are not directly connected with any port. The nearest port for Mysore is Madras, 220 miles from Bangalore, which is on a railway different in gauge from the main railways of the State. The nearest port connected by a metre gauge railway is the Portuguese port of Mormugao, which is 434 miles from Mysore or Bangalore. In both cases, the trade has to incur either the unnecessary expenditure of a transhipment or of a long haul to reach a port. A direct outlet to the sea by as short a route as possible is a great desideratum for the trade of Mysore. In this connection, investigations have proved that the Bhatkal scheme, *i.e.*, the extension of the Shimoga-Sagar Railway by 58 miles to Bhatkal, a port in North Kanara District of Bombay Presidency, where conditions exist for the construction of an up-to-date modern harbour, is most suitable and is an economic proposition. It is to be hoped that this scheme, fraught with such great benefit to the commerce and industry of Mysore and the adjoining portions of British India, may become an accomplished fact in the not distant future.

(iii) Nature has blessed Mysore with abundant resources for the generation of electric power. The existing hydro-electric installations have an effective capacity of nearly 35,000 kilowatts. It is also estimated that the proposed projects of harnessing Sharavati, Bhadra, etc., may yield nearly 100,000 kilowatts. It will be seen that sufficient electric power will be available after meeting all the present and prospective requirements for installation and industrial purposes. The adoption of electric traction for Mysore Railways will not only increase the amenities and facilities for travel but will save for

the State the 5 or 6 lakhs of rupees that are now being spent annually for imports of coal. Electrification of railways has its undoubted advantages in economy, speed and comfort and Mysore, with its abundant resources for generation of electric power at cheap cost, will not, it may confidently be expected fail to adopt electric traction on its important main lines.

AN ANCIENT INDIAN INDUSTRY.

SERICULTURE IN PERIL.

BY *Diwan Bahadur* K. R. SRINIVASA IYENGAR, M.A.

(*Ex-Member of Council, Mysore.*)

THE silk industry in India is an ancient one, which had been well established in the country even prior to the beginning of the Christian era. Tradition has it that it was introduced into the country from China which was the original home of the industry. Though there are several varieties of silk, the one most produced in India is the mulberry silk—produced by silkworms fed on mulberry leaves.

SUBSIDIARY OCCUPATION.

Sericulture in India has, as in other countries where the industry is practised, been all along a poor man's occupation—incidental and subsidiary to the main profession of agriculture. It is estimated that before the industry in India was subjected to the present depression, the total average annual production of silk in the country amounted to more than two million lbs., valued at one and a half crores of rupees; and that the industry was giving occupation to nearly a million people in all its stages. Though it was thus one of great magnitude and importance to the country, it was confined to only a few places where climatic and other conditions were favourable for its establishment and development, the Districts of Malda, Murshidabad, Rajshahi and Bhirbum in the Bengal Presidency, the Kollegal Taluk in the Madras Presidency, the Districts of Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur and Mysore in the Mysore State, the Kashmir and Jammu State and a few scattered areas in Assam, Burma and the Punjab.

Though China was the original home and for a long time the largest producer of silk, Japan which was sericulturally a backward country entered the field towards the end of the nineteenth century and, with its characteristic energy and enterprise, applied itself, with the help of its Government, to the improvement and development of the industry to such an extent that it made rapid strides and came in the course of about two decades to take the first rank among the silk-producing countries of the world. According to the report of the Indian Tariff Board published in 1933, Japan had by then become responsible for 65 per cent of the total world's production, China coming next with only 20 per cent. Its production has still further increased greatly during the past three years.

Company Days.

The silk industry in Bengal received very great stimulus and impetus during the time of the East India Company beginning from the latter part of the seventeenth century. Encouragement was given to mulberry cultivation by the grant of land on easy rates of assessment, improvements were effected in the rearing of the worms and the reeling of the silk and filatures were established. By the adoption of these and other measures for the improvement and development of the industry, a great increase was effected in the production of silk, enabling the Company to export it, in large quantities, to foreign countries—particularly to Great Britain. A reference to the tables contained in the report of the Indian Tariff Board shows that the imports of Bengal silk into England, prior to 1839, went up to over one million lbs. (valued at more than one and a half crores of rupees) during some of the years. With the disappearance of the East India Company, the decline in the Bengal silk industry began and what with the want of adequate Government support and other causes, it has fallen so low that all exports to foreign countries have ceased.

Chinese Competition.

While Bengal did not, owing to the lack of adequate Government encouragement and support, recover from the disaster which overtook the silk industry in India on account of the outbreak of 'Pebrine' (an epidemic disease among silk-worms) in the later years of the nineteenth century, the Governments of Mysore and Kashmir made laudable efforts to revive the industry in their States. In Kashmir, where the silk industry was a State monopoly, considerable improvements were effected in the several stages of the industry. In Mysore, a separate department was formed and maintained by Government under the control of trained and qualified experts ; and as the result of these efforts, the industry showed every sign of regaining its original place. But, unfortunately, the gradual devaluation of the Chinese 'Tael' in terms of the rupee, from the year 1928, enabled the Chinese to put their raw silk into the Indian market at prices at which the local product could not possibly compete.

Protection.

The sericulturists of India being unable, owing to the inflow of cheap Chinese silk, to realise even the actual cost of production of their silk, the industry showed steady signs of decline, as evidenced by the large fall in the area under mulberry. Towards 1931, the position became so grave and the silk industry in India was so much threatened with extinction that the Mysore Silk Association moved the Government of India—through the Mysore Government—for protective duties against foreign silk. The Indian Tariff Board on Sericulture was thereupon appointed by Government to go fully into the question and make its recommendations. The Board, after visiting all important places where the industry was practised and making a thorough investigation of the state of the industry in each place, arrived at the conclusion that the silk

industry in India was eminently fitted for protection as it fully satisfied the conditions prescribed therefor by the Fiscal Commission. After going fully into the actual cost of production of the several grades of silk, in all parts of India, they found that Rs. 6-2-6, Rs. 5-0-10 and Rs. 6-10-9 per lb. represented the fair selling prices of first quality Indian charka silk, the inferior charka silk and the India filature silk respectively, and as the ex-duty prices of corresponding grades of foreign silk were all lower by about Rs. 2-6-0 per lb. they considered that this amount (Rs. 2-6-0 per lb.) represented the minimum measure of protection required for these silks, and accordingly recommended the import duty on the foreign silk being increased by this amount, with corresponding increases in the duty on imported silk fabrics as also artificial silk and spun silk. They also added a rider that if the ex-duty prices of foreign silk were to go down, the duty would have to be further increased by the amount of such fall. In passing orders on the report of the Tariff Board, the Government of India imposed a duty much lower than that proposed by the Tariff Board—though even the latter had become inadequate owing to further fall in the prices of foreign silk by the time the Government passed their order. In the course of the discussions on the subject in the Legislative Assembly, the then Commerce Member, the Hon. Sir Joseph Bhore, gave, however an assurance that if the duty then imposed by the Government proved to be ineffective, they would be prepared to reconsider the matter, as they had no desire to allow the industry to die out in India.

JAPANESE DUMPING.

All this happened in the early part of 1934. Since then the position has been steadily getting worse. Japan has during the past few years ousted China to a very large extent from all silk-consuming countries of the world and with the help of its Government has been able to dump her silk in the Indian

market at rates even cheaper than the Chinese silk by about a rupee per lb. with the result that the difference between the ex-duty price of Japanese silk imported into India and the fair selling price of the Indian silk has risen to Rs. 3-6-0. This amount of Rs. 3-6-0 per lb. is therefore the minimum amount of duty that should be levied on foreign raw silk—with corresponding duties in respect of silk fabrics, etc.—if the silk industry in India is to be saved from extinction. The Mysore Silk Association has been repeatedly urging on the Government of India the urgent need for their taking the necessary steps in this respect and their representations have received full support from the Mysore Chamber of Commerce, the South Indian Chamber of Commerce, Madras, the Madras Chamber of Commerce, the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, Bengal National Chamber, Calcutta, as also the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. It is understood that the Government of Bengal have also pressed on the Government of India the urgent need for this additional protection.

Reduced Production Costs.

Given adequate protection over a sufficiently long period—say, at least 10 years—it is confidently expected that, with the active support of the Governments concerned and the co-operation of those engaged in the industry, the cost of production of silk can be reduced by at least 50 per cent by the adoption of suitable improvements in every stage of the industry. A detailed programme of such improvements has been submitted by the Mysore Silk Association to the Government of Mysore. The indiscriminate use of all kinds of seed eggs by the sericulturists accounts for a considerable loss in the production of the silk. It is expected that a saving of at least 30 per cent can be effected by the supply of disease-free eggs of cross-breeds to all the sericulturists in the State. Other measures

proposed for reducing cost of production are the introduction of better varieties of mulberry (including tree mulberry), the adoption of improved methods of cultivation to increase the growth of mulberry, improvements in rearing and reeling methods and the establishment of filatures. The cumulative effect of these proposals will be to bring down the cost of production of silk by at least 50 per cent as already stated. The Mysore Government have considerably increased their annual budget grants under Sericulture to effect these improvements; and it is hoped that the Bengal and Madras Governments will also take similar action to improve the industry in their Provinces.

UNLIMITED SCOPE.

The conditions in the parts of India where this industry is practised are so favourable for its development that with the necessary support from the Governments concerned and earnestness and enthusiasm on the part of those engaged in the industry, there is no limit to which the industry may not be able to reach. If only the Government of India will support the industry at this critical time, in the manner proposed, we can confidently look forward to the expansion of the industry in India to such an extent that not only can it supply the entire demand of silk in the country, but also meet fully the requirements of the British Empire abroad. The prospect is one which must appeal strongly to every patriotic Indian. Will the Government of India help in the realisation of this prospect or will they, through lack of imagination and sympathy, allow this ancient industry of the country to perish, throwing out of employment the millions of people dependent on it and transferring to the pockets of the Japanese and other foreigners the crores of rupees which these people were making by it? There can be only one right answer to the question and it is devoutly to be hoped that the Government of India will not hesitate to give that answer.

UTILISATION OF SILK WASTE.

THE Mysore Spun Silk Mills, Limited, has been formed for manufacturing spun silk yarn from silk waste which till recently was being exported to foreign countries and reimported as spun yarn. For the past three or four years, the exports of silk waste from India have practically ceased and the silk industry suffered for want of demand for silk waste. Silk reelers' profits consist mostly of the realisation from silk waste and since there has been no demand for silk waste, the silk reeling industry has been hard hit. Consequently, the sericulture industry has suffered. The Government of Mysore have very wisely initiated the scheme to utilise the silk waste produced in Mysore and the other parts of silk producing provinces in India. The Mysore Spun Silk Mills, Limited, is the first concern of its kind in India. There is an abundant supply of raw material, skilled labour and cheap electric power in Mysore. The Indian silk waste gives a yarn which in colour, lustre and tenacity is satisfactory and far superior to any spun silk yarn in the world.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION IN MYSORE.

POLICY OF THE STATE.

(Contributed.)

HISTORICALLY speaking the first public announcement about the "Industrial Policy in Mysore" is contained in the address of the late Dewan Ranga Charlu to the newly formed Representative Assembly in 1881. He said :—

". . . The old idea that India must confine itself to agricultural produce is giving way to the more correct theory that no country can prosper unless its agricultural and manufacturing industries were equally fostered . . ."

". . . The ordinary routine of the administration of the Government is not the only subject which requires our notice. The development of the various industries on which the prosperity of the country is dependent equally demands our consideration and His Highness' Government will be always prepared to give every attention to any suggestions which may be made upon these subjects."

His illustrious successor, Sir K. Seshadri Aiyar, under the guidance of His Highness the late Sri Chamarajendra Wadiyar and Her Highness the late Maharani Regent, constructed the railway lines between Bangalore and Harihar, Bangalore and Hindupur frontier, and Birur and Shimoga, encouraged and consolidated the gold mining industry, induced the establishment of cotton, woolen and silk mills, and arranged to get the Indian Institute of Science established at Bangalore. He initiated the hydro-electric installation at Sivasamudram.

Early in his reign His Highness the Maharaja indicated the lines of his industrial policy when he opened the Madras

Industrial and Arts Exhibition on the 26th December 1903. "It is time for us in India," he said, "to be up and doing; new markets must be found, new methods adopted and new handicrafts developed, whilst the educated unemployed, no less than the skilled and unskilled labourers, all those, in fact, whose precarious means of livelihood is a standing menace to the well-being of the State, must find employment in re-organised and progressive industries."

In 1911, he inaugurated the Mysore Economic Conference which has done so much to the economic and industrial awakening of the people of Mysore.

His Highness, shortly after this, appointed as his Dewan, that eminent patriot—engineer-statesman—Sir M. Visvesvaraya who made powerful use of the machinery of the Mysore Economic Conference and galvanised Mysore into activity for over six years.

He reiterated Government's policy as follows :—

"The intelligence of the people should be developed and their earning capacity and efficiency improved. Occupations should be multiplied and every one who has capacity for work must be made to work. The use of machinery should be rendered popular and more training given in science and in mechanical and industrial pursuits."

The industrial policy of the Mysore Government received a new orientation with the appointment of *Amin-ul-mulk* Sir Mirza M. Ismail as Dewan. He explained the policy in the first Address to the Representative Assembly on the 14th June 1926 in the following terms :—

". . . The economic question stands first among all our questions; and it will continue to receive our constant and careful attention. To take the simplest, the most obvious and yet the most neglected of matters, the production and use of the necessities of life within the State. Home production, manufacture and use of necessities of life, are

the triple root of material prosperity, and the basis of all other forms of prosperity. The first step towards the larger attainment of such prosperity is the improvement of means and methods of agricultural production. To this, the Government will give all possible help . . . But the success of such necessary movements depends less upon State patronage than upon individual initiative and work, not only for one's own benefit, but for the benefit of the country at large . . .

". . . Government will be ready to respond to any well-considered and practical suggestion for the encouragement of local enterprise, either in the field of large-scale manufacture or commerce, or in the field of indigenous arts and crafts."

Pursuant to the policy laid down by the Rulers and administrators of the State, the State undertook to start a number of industries. For the sake of convenience, the State-aid to industries may be considered under the following heads:—

(*a*) Pioneering of industries under State management.
(*b*) Assistance given to private enterprise.
(*c*) Indirect help of a general nature.

STATE ENTERPRISES.

The Cauvery Power Scheme. The Government of Mysore are almost the pioneers of hydro-electric development in India. For the past 35 years they have been generating hydro-electric power and distributing it to the various industries and other purposes. Recently the distribution of electricity is being extended to small towns and hamlets so that the benefits derived by the people in towns may also be available for the poor villagers far away in the interior. This rural electrification scheme has produced rapid results and augurs well for the future. Spread of electricity in rural parts has always meant a change in the outlook of the rural population of the State.

The present output of power at Sivasamudram where the Cauvery Falls have been harnessed for the production of power is 45,000 H.P. which may shortly be increased to 50,000 H.P. There are at present some 2,500 power installations in the State of Mysore. A recent industrial activity of the Electrical Department is in the field of manufacture of transformers that are generally used by the Department itself.

Mention should be made of the starting of three new industrial concerns in Bangalore which are closely associated with the electric development in the State. These are :—

(*a*) The Hindustan Electric Accumulators Manufacturing Company for the manufacture of storage batteries,

(*b*) The Mysore Lamp Works for the manufacture of electric bulbs, and

(*c*) The Mysore Neon Signs, Ltd., for the manufacture of Neon Signs advertisement.

The last company is responsible for the magnificent Neon Sign illumination of the frontage of the new Mysore Dasara Exhibition building at Mysore.

The Mysore Iron and Steel Works commenced operations in 1923. On account of the absence of coking coal in South India, the fuel used for smelting purposes at Bhadravati is charcoal, obtained from the forest in the neighbourhood as well as by the destructive distillation of wood. The pig iron thus produced is of very superior quality with close-grained structure practically free from phosphorus and sulphur and commands a higher price in the market over the ordinary varieties of coke pig iron. The bye-products of wood distillation are acetate of lime, wood tar and methanol. Since the installation of the original plant, several new units have been added with a view to find a ready outlet in more finished form for the raw materials. These consist of pipe foundry plant, alcohol refinery, tar plant, general foundry and machine shop for the manufacture of castings, the most recent

addition being the modern steel plant for rolling standard steel sections having a ready market in the South Indian markets.

The establishment of the Iron and Steel Industry has naturally given impetus to the growth of other industries. As has been announced by the Government, a Paper Mill and a Cement Factory will also be soon started at Bhadravati.

The Cement Factory will form a part of the Iron and Steel Works. It is expected to cost Rs. 5·5 lakhs and will produce about 20,000 tons of Portland cement annually. The slag, a waste product of the Blast Furnace produced in the course of the manufacture of pig iron, forms an economic raw material for the manufacture of cement. There is also an abundant deposit of suitable quality of clay and limestone available close to Bhadravati. Hence the location of the Factory here and its association with the Iron and Steel Works have distinct advantages. There is considerable saving in capital investment also on account of auxiliary facilities and services already available.

The Paper Mill will be a joint-stock concern sponsored by Government. The tramways of the Iron and Steel Works running through the forests will serve to transport the raw material required, *viz.*, bamboo, and the Paper Mill will also have the benefit of the mechanical shops of the Works for the maintenance of their machinery, etc.

Thus Bhadravati is gradually fulfilling the hopes of its originators of developing into the most important industrial centre of Mysore.

Yet another industry of great importance to the State is the Sandalwood Oil Factory. Mysore had been famous from times immemorial for its sandalwood, *santalum album*, an evergreen tree mostly flourishing in the elevated regions of the forests of South India. It takes 30 to 40 years for the tree to mature and its growth is the monopoly of Government. The

Mysore State holds monopoly of seven-eighths of the world production of *santalum album.*

At present there is only one factory in Mysore working throughout the year with a rated output of more than 120,000 lbs. of oil. The gross revenue earned by the Government of Mysore is about 18 lakhs of rupees every year.

Mention should be made of the three other industries in which Government have taken shares and which are to be included amongst big industries in the State:—

1. The Mysore Sugar Company (Government subscription to the share capital is 60 per cent).

2. The Mysore Paper Mills, Ltd. (Government subscription to the share capital is 10 per cent).

3. The Mysore Spun Silk Mills, Limited (Government subscription to the share capital is 10 per cent).

Another State enterprise which is of great importance from the point of view of industries but detailed consideration of which is not possible here, is the Mysore Railways.

The State has encouraged many minor industries. There is a Government Soap Factory at Bangalore. There is also a Porcelain Factory. The Government have also encouraged silk industry. The Electric Factory, the Badanval Spinning Circle, etc., also give evidence of the Government's solicitude in this matter.

THE FUTURE.

The industrial future of the State of Mysore is full of hope and promise. The schemes for development of hydro-electric power at Jog, Lakkavalli, Krishnarajasagara and Shimsha valley are all awaiting sanction of Government. This will mean cheaper electric power which will be available for the development of rural areas. Electric power will be available for the needs of electro-chemical industries like the manufacture of ferro-chrome, ferro-manganese and other alloy steels, manufacture of aluminium, caustic-soda and bleaching-powder



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

The mantle factory near the Science Institute, Bangalore, is a pioneer venture in the State. It was started by Sir C. V. Raman.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

THE PREMISES OF THE NEON SIGNS FACTORY.

10

and other chemicals. Use of power alcohol is no longer a matter of theoretical speculation but a problem claiming early settlement for a place alongside of petrol. Another important industry which is under consideration of Government is the manufacture of sulphuric acid and ammonium-sulphate, the latter being one of the important chemical fertilisers. The manufacture of refractory materials, like silica bricks, magnesite bricks and other varieties suited for furnace linings will have to be taken up in the near future. Utilisation of an available bye-product which is now going to waste at Mandya, *viz.*, carbon-dioxide for the manufacture of dry ice, is a subject to be tackled very soon. Other schemes of industrial development are intimately connected up with the development of Bhatkal harbour and the Mysore Railway system getting a connection to the South Indian Railway system. The provision of adequate industrial finance at a cheap rate of interest is another matter which is under the consideration of the Board of Industries and Commerce. Lack of cheap coal, necessity to purchase costly petrol, absense of workable salt deposits, the land-locked position of the State of Mysore, dependency on the Government of India measures in fiscal matters, the keen competition of foreign manufacturers, are some of the factors which are always affecting the development of any particular industry in the State of Mysore. These limiting factors exist and will not deny themselves. But in spite of them, the conditions in Mysore are particularly favourable for further industrial expansion.

THE INDUSTRIES OF MYSORE.

IMPROVED SYSTEMS OF AGRICULTURE.

By Sir Alfred Chatterton.

(*Formerly Director of Industries and Commerce.*)

IT is some thirteen years since I ceased to be officially connected with the Mysore State and though I have followed with interest the subsequent industrial developments which have taken place, being no longer behind the scenes, I am not in a position to comment authoritatively upon the present position.

The White Lead Syndicate.

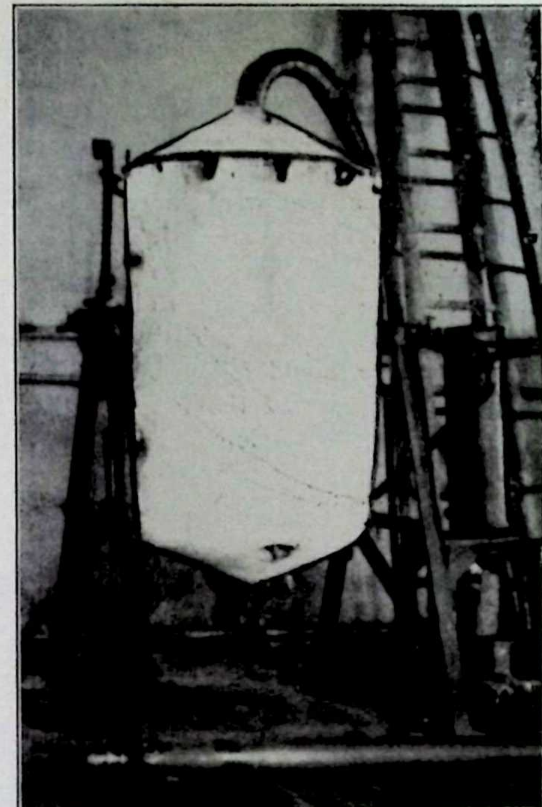
As a private individual I am still associated with the management of the Bangalore While Lead Syndicate and I mention this because it illustrates in a striking way the disadvantages due to geographical situation which attend industrial enterprises in the Mysore State if they have to look for markets beyond the south of India.

This little undertaking was started soon after the war as an experiment in Bangalore and on its technical side was under the control of the chemists of the Indian Institute of Science. The factory was under the management of the late Mr. V. Rangaswami Iyengar, a retired officer of the Mysore Public Works Department, and its ultimate commercial success was largely due to his energy and ability. For years we struggled to overcome the prejudice against a country-made product, and no sooner was that achieved than we attracted the attention of the International White Lead Convention which compelled us to join their organisation and accept a quota of the demand of India for white lead; and to agree not to export our

manufactures beyond the boundaries of India and Burma. The inability of the Convention to maintain their prices in India, chiefly on account of Japanese competition, led to the withdrawal of the quota restriction. Helped by the tariff we then went ahead, and for the last four years the factory has been run to its full capacity. Any further expansion in Bangalore was impossible as the main market for white lead was in the north of India. The handicap due to railway freight on pig lead from Burma, landed in Madras and carried to Bangalore, together with the freight on the finished product from Bangalore to Calcutta, amounted to at least Rs. 45 per ton. After very protracted negotiations with British importers of white lead, we are now building a new factory at Konnagur on the Hooghly which we hope will be in a position to eliminate foreign competition altogether. It will start work early next year and thenceforward the Bangalore factory will have to run in competition with its more favourably situated offspring and that means that its output will be restricted to the needs of the south of India. We were faced with the alternative of seeing a rival factory started in the North, and the policy we have pursued is to the interest of the members of the Syndicate, but it exposes completely the weakness of Bangalore as a centre for any industries in which freight charges for assembly of raw materials and distribution of manufactured goods play an important part.

Help of the Indian Institute of Science.

Whilst I was Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore, I made as much use as possible of the very valuable resources of the Indian Institute of Science and the results thereby achieved bore eloquent testimony to the wisdom and foresight of the late Sir Seshadri Aiyar, who when Dewan of Mysore induced the provisional Board of Control to establish the Institute at Hebbal just to the north of Bangalore. It is



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

This historic still was the one used in the experimental extractions of sandalwood oil before the industry was actually started. The still is now in the Science Institute.

certain that without the assistance rendered by the Applied Chemistry Department, the distillation of sandalwood could not have been undertaken.

Besides the white lead industry, Mysore owes its flourishing soap factory and the wood distillation plant to preliminary work done in its laboratories. Further it supplied us with well-trained chemists who have subsequently become expert technologists, and in addition I derived much valuable help and advice in many subsidiary matters, the importance of which was only realised by those who were aware of the pitfalls we were thus able to avoid. I am rather under the impression that so much use is not made nowadays of the Institute of Science and if that be so I think it is to be regretted by both parties. Mysore needs all the scientific assistance it can obtain, and the Institute should follow the policy which was ever prominent in the eyes of the founder, that it should materially contribute to the development of the welfare of the people of India.

The position of Mysore in India somewhat resembles that of Switzerland in Europe. It is an attractive country both by virtue of its climate, scenery and archæological associations. Especially during the prevalence of the south-west monsoon when the Nilgiris are drenched with rain, the Mysore plateau is a pleasant country and if the amenities demanded by modern holiday-makers were created, there is but little doubt that a much larger number of people would resort to it. To enumerate in detail present defects would doubtless arouse much resentment, and I will confine myself to observing that there is not really a good golf course in the whole State.

Fostering of Light Industries.

The political situation of Mysore is superior to that of Switzerland in that it is not surrounded by neighbours who impose obstructions to its trade by tariffs, but it is equally

precluded from the development of many industries by reason of its lack of raw materials and its inability to compete with sea-borne trade. Mysore must confine itself to the satisfaction of its own needs and those of its immediate neighbours so far as the production of heavy goods is concerned, but like Switzerland there is no reason why, with the aid of electric power, quite a wide range of light industries should not engage the skill and dexterity of its citizens. A special type of technical education is required to foster this kind of work and the Education Department might perhaps profitably consider specialisation in this direction. At the Patna Exhibition held last cold weather, Messrs. Orr and Emm exhibited some light textile machinery which was most favourably commented upon and it is in the very wide field of light mechanical productions that there is scope for the employment of large numbers of skilled craftsmen. Every possible encouragement to such efforts should, therefore, be given.

Development of Agriculture.

I have always held that whilst Mysore should aim at such industrial development as is possible, it is in the direction of agricultural improvement that the State must mainly depend for material progress. The policy pursued in recent years seems amply to justify this view. The very successful results obtained with sugarcane cultivation and the manufacture of sugar on a large scale on the lands commanded by the Cauvery reservoir show what can be done when the resources of the State are utilised to assist the cultivator. The benefits which the major irrigation works have conferred on India are beyond question, but it has been left to the Mysore Durbar to make a great advance beyond anything that has been done in India, even in the Punjab, to help the cultivators to use the water in the best way. This work is by no means finished, but the rate of progress is remarkable. When it is completed, the annual

increment to the wealth of the people will raise the standard of living over a large area and contribute materially to an increase in its demands for new wants towards which every effort should be made to supply them within the State. There will be a demand for better food and better clothing. The Agricultural Department should see that the first item is forthcoming, and the local mills and the hand-weavers should supply the latter. Merely as an example it may be assumed that more fruit and vegetables will be required and that a larger number of silk saris will be wanted amongst the women-folk of those who have prospered. Mysore can certainly produce the goods and the silk weavers should be helped when necessary to prevent their fabrics being supplanted by those made from imported rayon.

Use of Village and Farm Waste.

Intensive cultivation can only be carried on by the application of suitable fertilisers on an equivalent scale. Mysore, I understand, is starting a factory to produce certain chemical fertilisers from its waste mineral products of Bhadravati; other fertilisers such as nitrates and sulphate of ammonia are imported. The Mysore Agricultural and Health Departments are also working in conjunction with the municipalities to produce from town waste valuable composts which are highly appreciated by the cultivators. From Mysore City alone, some 4,500 tons is now annually obtained and it is a very useful contribution to the solution of the problem. Sir Albert Howard, by a process which he worked out at Indore, has succeeded in making a valuable compost from village and farm waste combined with local vegetable matter hitherto disregarded. On large estates, this new process is making rapid headway, but it can hardly be worked by the Indian raiyat with his small holding. On the other hand, it seems eminently suited for co-operative working in almost all villages. Doubtless,

it will require much tact and patience to evolve a co-operative system that could be harmoniously worked in the villages throughout India, but it would be well worth the while of the Agricultural Departments to attempt it. Mysore is well equipped and favourably situated for such work, especially in and around the new sugarcane areas. The raw materials are available and cost nothing—only a certain amount of labour and that of no great amount, is required. It would be no exaggeration to say that the successful introduction of this process would add twenty-five per cent to the agricultural yield of the State. Comment on such a result is superfluous.

In concluding this brief note, I may perhaps be permitted to refer to the fact that Mysore has for many years been an autonomous State, pursuing consistently and steadily an enlightened policy for the improvement of the condition of its people. If the same conditions can be established in the autonomous provinces of the future in British India, great will be the content of the people.

MYSORE'S TRADE OVERSEAS.

VALUE OF LONDON REPRESENTATION.

By T. V. A. Isvaran, B.A.

(*Trade Commissioner in London.*)

I AM glad to be able to contribute something to the Mysore Special Number of THE HINDU, and particularly to write about the work of the Trade Commissioner's Office in London. I do so readily because THE HINDU has always shown the most kindly interest in the welfare of the State, and for the further obvious reason that as Trade Commissioner I am naturally anxious to avail myself of every opportunity to make known what the office in London is endeavouring to do to promote the overseas trade of Mysore.

It is well to emphasise the fact that Mysore is the only Indian State that has so far established an organisation in London for its own direct commercial representation. There is, of course, a Trade Commissioner for India in London, and an efficient Commercial Department at India House, but his office has no direct responsibility for the Indian States as such. Cordial and friendly as India House is towards Mysore, the organisation there is not called upon to do anything for that State, and the onus of caring for our trade abroad, for conducting publicity for its famous products, and for expanding its commercial interests in the United Kingdom and practically throughout Europe rests entirely upon the Trade Commissioner's Office established by the Mysore Government. That this London office does do a valuable service for the State is, I believe, well understood and appreciated in Mysore. I hope to show in this article that there is every justification for this belief.



By courtesy of] [*The "Hindu."*

THE MYSORE STAND AT THE BRITISH INDUSTRIES FAIR, HELD IN LONDON THIS YEAR (1936).

The Trade Commissioner's Office was set up at Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, in the heart of London, some seven years ago. A somewhat bitter experience in leaving the commercial representation of the State in private hands had befallen the Government. There was default on the part of the then representatives, and consequential heavy losses. It was decided to entrust the representation to an official organisation, particularly in view of the State's own large share at home in the conduct and control of certain of our major producing industries. In principle this decision conformed to the experience and practice of State or Provincial Governments in the British Dominions. Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland, British Columbia, Rhodesia and Ottawa each have their agencies and commercial representations under their direct control in London. Their establishments and premises in the world capital are much larger than our own, but the idea is the same. There is no reason to believe that the Mysore Government's decision to create its own direct representation has ever been regretted—rather the reverse. In the seven years that have elapsed since the Trade Commissioner's Office was established, results have proved the wisdom of the decision, and this, despite the fact that in that period Mysore, in common with the rest of the world, has experienced the worst economic depression in history, with commodity prices knocked to pieces.

Functions of Trade Commissioner.

I was appointed to the Trade Commissionership in the middle of 1935, and took up my duties in London in August of that year. The functions with which my office is charged are those of expanding Mysore's trade all over Europe, and of directing publicity and propaganda in furtherance of that trade expansion and the wider spread of knowledge regarding the State. We are responsible directly—representing the State as

producer—for the sale of sandalwood oil all over Europe, and in Palestine, Egypt and the United States of America. We take a prominent part in propaganda and development of the market for coffee, but do not handle the trade in this commodity. The Trade Commissioner also handles as far as possible the trade in Mysore granite and other products, and deals with commercial enquiries relative to silk, or any other exportable item. We are constantly examining business openings here, there and everywhere, and in general keep the Government, producers, manufacturers and exporters informed regarding trade opportunities.

As the Mysore Government is a large buyer of British and other manufactures—let me instance railway and electrical machinery and equipment and other products of heavy industries—the Trade Commissioner's Office also has responsibilities in this direction, although naturally we have at our service consulting engineers and other experts.

In spite of the severest competition, we have been able to demonstrate to the world that there is nothing to equal the Mysore sandalwood oil.

Mysore granite has become a very interesting and important item of export. The Trade Commissioner acts as distributor for private producers in the State, and the trade is now on a very satisfactory footing. The beauty and serviceability of our granite is now widely known, and it is fast increasing in demand for memorial stones. Quite recently a firm in Amsterdam has become interested in our granite and there is every prospect of a large business being done. In this product Mysore can easily compete with the entire world.

Mysore Court in London.

Reference has been made in The Hindu to the Mysore Court at the Imperial Institute in South Kensington. Through the kindness of Sir Harry Lindsay, the Director, in

collaboration with myself, this Court has been created as a display of Mysore's products, arts and crafts. In time it will be made one of the most attractive displays in the Empire Section. The Dewan, Sir Mirza Ismail, was pleased to speak highly in its praise when he inspected the Court during his recent visit to London with His Highness the Maharaja.

The Trade Commissioner's Office has also been responsible for a display at the Annual British Industries Fair, and the publicity value of this has been unmistakable. Of course, there is much still to be done to raise the service of the office towards the State to the highest possible peak of efficiency and effectiveness, but time is necessarily required. Trade does not automatically come. It has to be pursued in this world of keen competition with increasing vigour. Still, the maintenance of the Trade Commissioner's Office is, I am convinced, a most valuable thing in the development and expansion of Mysore's overseas commerce. Not the least important asset to the State which it represents is that it gives Mysore prestige in the world's greatest centre of business, and demonstrates to all with whom it maintains contact that Mysore is a land of rich resources, and an enterprising and courageous unit of India.

FUTURE OF MYSORE COFFEE.

ATTENTION TO QUALITY ESSENTIAL.

(From Our London Correspondent.)

THOSE who know what good coffee really is have no hesitation in giving pride of place to the product of Mysore. I think Mysore knows that, but it remains important that everything possible should be done to keep up the quality and maintain the prestige of Mysore coffee in the English market.

So far, as has frequently been pointed out in The Hindu, the general public of this country have not heard much about "Mysore" when buying their coffee. They are satisfied to get a beverage of good strength and taste, and do not bother at all what is the origin of the bean, or the name under which it may be sold. Only a limited number of experts actually specify "Mysore" when buying, and up till quite recently, there has been difficulty enough in getting the real thing. If the ordinary person enquires for the Mysore product, he is quite commonly assured that some of it at least is contained in the retailer's own blend which may be made up of Brazilian, Central American, or Kenya coffees with just a "dash" of Mysore in it.

This is one aspect of the problem that for a long time has engaged the special attention of Mr. T. V. A. Isvaran, the Mysore Trade Commissioner in London, and is now being tackled vigorously by the recently-created Indian Coffee Market Expansion Board. This body is concerned with developing the trade here and conducting effective propaganda for the greater use of Indian coffee and more discernment by the public in securing what they want. Those who understand marketing difficulties agree that it was a wise decision of the Indian producers not to throw in their lot with the

scheme for an "Empire" campaign. This would have resulted in lumping Indian coffee in with that from Kenya and elsewhere. Quite probably a much greater sale for all coffee produced in India and the Empire would have been promoted, but more likely the major benefit from an "all-in" scheme would have accrued to the African colonies. To get Indian coffee its right and fair share of the British market, a scheme of a more direct character had to be adopted.

Talking the other day to Mr. Isvaran, I gathered that the Indian Coffee Market Expansion Board, on which he is Mysore's official representative, is preparing a very careful survey of marketing conditions here, and in due course—if some of them have not already gone forward—extremely valuable reports will be furnished to the government authorities, producer organisations and shippers associated with or interested in the work of the Board. Such reports will necessarily be somewhat technical, but so far as Mysore coffee is concerned, it is well to let it be known in advance, and in a layman's language, that there is some concern here about the maintenance of quality.

Many buyers and distributors in the trade here have been complaining that the quality of the Mysore product has fallen off. This complaint is based on the opinions of the expert tasters dealing with samples received direct from India such samples coming from the producers and curers themselves. Mr. Isvaran has told me that from his own enquiries among the trade there is some justification for these complaints.

"It is due to a certain extent," he said, "to what may be called natural causes; in other words, deterioration of plants through the impoverishment of the soil. This means that there is now an insufficiency of manuring. Our producers have got to watch this, for it is one of the lessons learned from Brazil in which country it is notorious that the trees suffered for lack of fertilisers, and the quality of the bean fell

away. There is also reason to believe that the fault is more largely due to curing. This is a very difficult question to discuss, but our expert reports will give the curers clear guidance in the matter. The quality of the coffee may seem perfect in Mysore itself, but for London the quality will not be right. This does not mean that the curers have in any sense 'slacked' on their part of preparing the bean for the export trade. It may easily arise from the difference in the water used for brewing the coffee. This is a ticklish problem. Here in London the water is chlorinated, or in other ways treated before it reaches the public, and when used for coffee-making it may give a very poor result—entirely different from that obtained with Mysore water. You cannot get good tea out of an aluminium pot, and water itself will quickly affect a good coffee."

"The question of proper and sufficient manuring," Mr. Isvaran added, "is one to which our home experts will certainly give their immediate attention. The processes of curing will require much more care. At the moment we are not criticising or condemning anybody; we are merely investigating and mentioning market complaints. It is, however, desirable to let producers, curers, and shippers know that the quality of Mysore coffee is being questioned, and for everybody to do the utmost possible to sustain our old reputation. How they can best do this will be shown when we are able to furnish our reports and make recommendations."

———

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES IN MYSORE.

EFFORTS AT REVIVAL.

By H. K. Ramiengar, M.A. (Hons.)

(*Assistant Director of Industries and Commerce.*)

IN olden days, cottage industries in Mysore were in a very flourishing condition. The village was an isolated, self-sufficient economic unit. The food grains required by the people were raised in the village and the simple articles needed to clothe and house its population were obtained either locally or in the immediate neighbourhood. The village craftsmen were members of the village community and were remunerated by a share of its produce. The important handicrafts practised in the village included the manufacture of agricultural implements, textile goods and articles of household use. The means of communication were inadequate and insecure and the articles of trade were generally luxuries, precious metals, artware, etc. The rapid improvement in the means of communication and the contact with the outside world have been responsible for the disintegration of the village economic life and with it the decay of the old village handicrafts. The old industries suffered very heavily on account of competition from the imported machine-made goods and changes in the fashions and tastes of people.

Some of the old cottage industries that have completely disappeared in Mysore may be mentioned here. Manufacture of gold thread was an important industry practised at Bangalore sixty years ago and the industry declined when the market was flooded with gold lace imported from France. Several varieties of rough paper were being made at Ganjam, Channapatna and

other places and the manufacture of glass and glass bangles was flourishing in Chitaldrug and Tumkur Districts and both these industries have practically vanished. There are several industries which have been struggling against competition and their future depends on the extent to which they can adapt themselves to the changing conditions of the present day.

According to the last census report, the important cottage industries affording employment to more than a thousand families are hand-loom weaving in cotton, silk and wool, silk-worm rearing, pottery, blacksmithy, jewellery, oil pressing, basket-making, carpentry, working in leather, mat-making, etc. Nearly 60,000 families were employed in these industries. Other industries returning less than a thousand families were tailoring, nakki-making, beedi-making, rope-making, manufacture of perfumes and scented sticks, wood carving, rattan work, toy-making, etc.

A large proportion of families engaged in the rural and cottage industries was returned from Mysore District and Bangalore District came next. These two districts accounted for nearly 50 per cent of the total number of families engaged in the industries referred to above and about 36 per cent was distributed among Tumkur, Chitaldrug and Kolar Districts.

It is seen from a study of the statistics of industrial occupations collected in 1871 and 1931 that during the last sixty years, the more important rural industries as weaving in cotton and wool, metal working, oil pressing, tanning and manufacture of leather goods, etc., have been steadily going down and that an improvement is noticed in silk-worm rearing and silk reeling, industries relating to the building materials, carpentry and furniture making, etc.

The decay of the rural industries has resulted in a large proportion of population being thrown on land for their livelihood. In a country where agriculture is the chief occupation of the people, the existence of small industries has

an important effect on their well-being. They provide suitable occupations to the cultivators during the slack season without prejudice to their agricultural operations. It is, therefore, necessary to adopt measures to arrest the decay of the existing rural industries and to introduce and develop new industries having regard to the facilities and resources available in the rural areas. The artisans in the rural areas have shown a tendency to migrate to the urban areas and it should be checked in the interests of rural welfare.

Improved Appliances.

Owing to the limited space available, it is not possible to give anything more than a brief account of some of the existing industries, the difficulties they are labouring under and measures necessary for their improvement. The industries dealing with the textile materials are more important as they provide employment to a large number of persons and any improvement in these industries will benefit the people to a large extent.

The hand-loom weaving industry in cotton, wool and silk is next in importance to agriculture and it is estimated that there are about 40,000 looms in the State and the total value of goods woven on them is estimated at two crores of rupees a year. The Department of Industries has ever since it was started in 1912-13, been paying continuous attention to the improvement of the weaving industry. It has popularised the use of fly-shuttle sleys and of other labour-saving appliances. New designs are supplied to the weavers and demonstrations in the use of the improved appliances are held at selected centres for the benefit of the weavers. At present there are about 30,000 fly-shuttle looms working in the State and the total value of improved appliances supplied to the weavers during the last ten years is estimated at more than Rs. 42,000. The Weaving Institute has designed a new loom which can be

worked by hand or power according to the convenience of the weavers and when worked by power, the output is nearly three times that of the ordinary hand-loom.

The hand-loom weavers are badly in need of financial and marketing facilities and there is no organisation to provide them with these facilities to the extent required. To help the weavers in Bangalore, the Weavers' Co-operative Society was assisted in getting a cash-credit account to the extent of Rs, 40,000 in the Provincial Co-operative Bank and its rules and bye-laws have been amended and suitable changes made in its working. A few Government officers and prominent merchants engaged in the trade in yarn and hand-woven goods are nominated as Directors of the Society. Their advice and help in connection with the purchase of yarn, silk, lace, etc., and also the marketing of the finished goods should benefit the members to a considerable extent. The successful working of the Society on the lines chalked out will go a long way in facilitating the formation in other centres of similar organisations with the aid of the prominent local merchants.

USE OF POWER.

The hand-loom weavers in Mysore have to face competition from another quarter, apart from the mills. The extension of the rural electrification scheme has afforded facilities for the use of electric power in rural industries. The number of small concerns having looms worked by power and run on cottage industries' lines has been steadily rising in Bangalore, Dodballapur, Mysore, etc. They are responsible for reducing the earnings of the rural weavers to a large extent and forcing them to find distant markets for the sale of their goods.

Sericulture is another important cottage industry in certain parts of the State practised by agriculturists as a subsidiary occupation. It provides employment in some form or other to about a sixth of the total population of the country. There

has been a severe depression in the industry owing to the competition of foreign silk imported into India at low prices. The production of raw silk has fallen from 11·5 lakhs of pounds valued at about a crore of rupees in 1926-27 to about 6 lakhs of pounds valued at about Rs. 30 lakhs in 1934-35.

As the existence of the industry was threatened by the dumping of foreign raw silk, representations were made to the Government of India for the grant of protection to the industry. After investigation, the Tariff Board recommended the grant of protection by increasing the import duty to the extent of Rs. 2-6-0 per lb. But the protection finally given has been found to be very inadequate as only a duty of Re. 0-14-0 per lb. in addition to the existing duty of 25 per cent *ad valorem* has been sanctioned to be levied for a period of five years. Efforts are, however, being made to reduce the cost of production of raw silk by introducing improvements in rearing and reeling and also in the cultivation of mulberry.

With a view to creating a demand for the silk reeled in the filatures and popularise the manufacture of high-grade silk fabrics which were being imported, a weaving factory was started at Mysore in 1931 with up-to-date equipment including a dyeing and finishing plant. The superior quality of the fabrics manufactured by the factory have been appreciated by the consumers all over India.

A company has recently been floated for starting a factory for spinning yarn from waste silk. The utilisation of the bye-product—silk-waste—is also essential for reducing the cost of production of silk.

Kambli-weaving is carried on at Kolar, Hunsur, Chiknaikanahalli, Davangere and other places. The number of looms is estimated at 10,000 and adequate supplies of raw materials are available locally. Women and children in the weavers' amilies are employed in spinning woollen yarn and three or four charkas are required to keep a loom fully engaged. There

are several grades of kamblies made and their prices depend upon the quality of woollen yarn, design, etc. About five lakhs of kamblies are made every year valued at Rs. 13 lakhs. The marketing of the goods is undertaken by the kambli merchants who previously make advances to the weavers. It is possible to bring about an increase in the demand if finer quality of yarn is used and better finish is given.

Another branch of the woollen industry in a flourishing condition is the manufacture of druggets at Bangalore. There are about 220 looms working at present giving employment to 800 persons. The annual output of druggets at Bangalore is about 100,000 square yards, valued at about 3 lakhs of rupees and more than 90 per cent of the production is exported to overseas markets in the U. S. A., United Kingdom, Australia, etc. Though there has been an extension in the market, the margin of profit is going down due to the competition of the weavers among themselves.

HAND-SPINNING.

In the year 1926-27 arrangements were made by Government for reviving hand-spinning as a cottage industry at Badanval and some villages in the neighbourhood, with the assistance of the All-India Spinners' Association. There was a gradual improvement in the quality of yarn spun and as fine yarn was spun, weaving of shirtings, coating and turban cloth was rendered possible. The total number of spinners and weavers at Badanval is 2,600 and 130 respectively. The total output of yarn last year was about 31,000 lbs. and the production of khadi amounted to 97,000 yards valued at Rs. 44,000. The total sales were to the extent of Rs. 46,000. From the experience gained, it is seen that hand-spinning can profitably be undertaken as a subsidiary industry by the agriculturists if there are facilities locally to weave the yarn spun into cloth. Several District Boards have taken considerable interest in

reviving the industry in suitable centres in their jurisdiction. The Badanval Spinning Circle has been rendering them assistance in organising and working the new spinning centres and in marketing the goods produced. The facilities offered in this connection by the All-India Spinners' Association are availed of by all the spinning centres.

Nakki weaving is another industry suffering from a slump in the demand. It is estimated that there are about 400 families of nakki weavers in Bangalore City and they all belong to the same community, *i.e.*, Somavamsha Kshatriyas, whose traditional occupation is the manufacture of nakki or gota. The chief market for nakki is in Northern India and the consumption in the State is very little. The monthly output of nakki at Bangalore is about 100 cases of 200 lbs. each valued at about Rs. 35,000. The chief raw materials used are lametta—imitation, gilt or silvered copper wire used for warp and silk or artificial silk or cotton yarn for weft. About 40 per cent of the lametta used in the industry is Indian made, the balance being imported from foreign countries. In recent years, a couple of enterprising local firms have started the manufacture of lametta in Bangalore and the total output is about 3,000 lbs. per month. The present fall in the demand for nakki is partly due to the accumulation of stocks and partly due to competition from nakki made in several places in Northern India such as Delhi, Jalander, Ajmeer, etc.

A brief account of some other typical cottage industries is given below. Manufacture of oodabatties or scented sticks is practised largely at Bangalore, Mysore, Chikballapur, Chintamani. The annual output is about 20,000 maunds of oodabatties valued at Rs. 3 lakhs, Bangalore alone accounting for more than 60 per cent of the total output. This industry provides employment to about 3,500 persons including women and children. The unrestricted competition among the manufacturers and the use of cheaper imported

perfumes has tended to reduce the price. The industry is in need of a central organisation to check the unhealthy competition and also to insist on the use of scents and perfumes available in the State.

Channapatna is noted for its lacquered toys and the industry has gradually extended to other places as Bangalore, Closepet, Bidadi, Kankanhalli, Nelamangala, etc. The industry is affording employment to about 900 to 1,000 persons including women and children. The total value of the lacquered toys exported from the State is about 3 lakhs of rupees. The principal raw material used is Haley wood obtained from the State forests.

Leather Goods.

The manufacture of leather goods was in a flourishing condition some years ago at Hunsur, Tarikere, Malavalli, etc. The industry has been affected by the changes in the fashions of the people. The imports of cheap canvas and rubber shoes from Japan and the decline in the purchasing power of the people in the rural areas have further reduced the demand for foot-wear made locally. With the well-to-do classes the boots and shoes of European pattern made in India or outside are becoming popular. Consequent on the loss of market for leather goods in the rural areas, the tanning of hides and skins on a small scale has also gone down.

There are ample facilities in the State for starting bark tanneries somewhat on a large scale in urban areas and to-day there are about 40 tanneries and the total value of hides and skins tanned by them every year for purposes of export amounts to Rs. 98 lakhs. The possibilities of introducing chrome tanning industry on a small scale as a cottage industry are being investigated. There is a demand at Bangalore for about 20,000 square feet of chrome leather per month and about 14,000 to 15,000 pairs of boots and shoes are made

every month. Attempts are also being made to introduce the manufacture of glue as a cottage industry by using the fleshings available in tanneries as the principal raw material.

State Assistance.

Persons engaged in the cottage industries have been experiencing a great difficulty in securing adequate financial facilities for meeting the current working expenses. In cases where finance is forthcoming, it is at very heavy and ruinous rates of interest. Further, the craftsmen are unable to market their goods at advantageous rates. In the absence of the financial and marketing facilities, they seek the assistance of the middle men and in course of time, they become helpless and lose their economic independence. This is largely responsible for their inability to go in for improved tools and appliances or to adopt new processes or to wait for and seek more favourable markets. The ignorance and the poverty of the artisans, their wasteful methods of production and improvident conditions of living are due to their economic helplessness. All these have a cumulative effect and work in a vicious circle.

A brief account of the assistance that is being rendered by the Department of Industries and Commerce to the cottage industries in the State may be given here. Loans are granted to deserving applicants on their satisfying the conditions of the loans rules either for the purchase of machinery or initial equipment or for working capital. Technical assistance is offered free to the artisans in selecting the machinery and also in erecting and maintaining them in good working order. Facilities are afforded to the artisans in securing raw materials at concessional rates, for example, supply of sandalwood to carvers, duty-free salt to the tanners, rectified spirits to the perfumeries, clay and fuel to brick and tile factories, etc., etc. Demonstrations in the use of the improved tools and appliances for the benefit of the craftsmen are held at suitable centres.

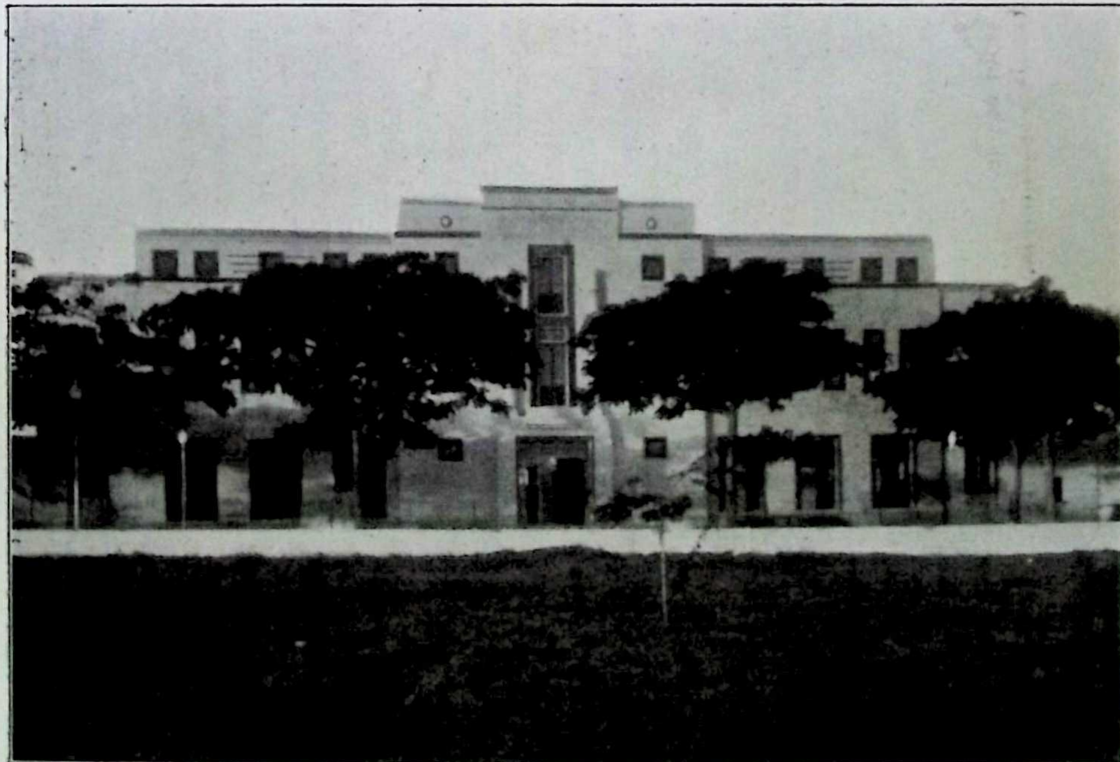
Grants or subventions are also sanctioned with a view to encourage them to overcome the difficulties incidental to the new industries at the earlier stages. The Department has organised sales depots at Bangalore and Mysore for the marketing of the products of the cottage industries and has also appointed sales agents in all important places in British India. The facilities offered by the Mysore Emporium recently started in Bombay and also by the office of the Trade Commissioner for Mysore in London are also being availed of to a large extent. Arrangements have been made for imparting practical instruction to the children of the artisans in several industries as weaving and dyeing, wood turning and carving, inlay work, manufacture of rattan articles, etc. Reference may also be made to the assistance that is being rendered to the artisans in organising and working co-operative producers' and sales societies.

MYSORE DASARA EXHIBITION.

THE PICTURE SALON.

By O. C. Gangoly.

IN the arid deserts of current Indian culture, exhibitions of pictures offer such few oases for thirsty lovers of Art, that they are inclined to exaggerate their qualities and virtues, and to over-estimate the exhibits at values far above their intrinsic merits. But the Salon of Pictures and Sculpture which is an important section of the Dasara Exhibition in Mysore has acquired an All-India status, and affords a good index to the average output of the annual crop of artistic efforts contributed by artists from all parts of India. With the exception of the Exhibition of the Academy of Fine Arts held in December in Calcutta, all other exhibitions of pictures are more or less, provincial shows, with the possible exception of the Bangalore Exposition held during the Racing season. Altogether, no more than a dozen exhibitions are held throughout the length and breadth of the whole of India,—an artistic fare which is wholly inadequate not only for the aesthetic education of the people, but is altogether insufficient to afford opportunity for the available number of practising artistic talents to find satisfaction in contact with an appreciative public however limited and apathetic. For Art cannot flourish, and artists cannot live, without adequate outlet of expression and appreciation. A society where the artistic is inhibited, for lack of sympathy or of opportunity, tends to sink to a low level of human consciousness, with disastrous moral consequences. Contemplation of works of art not only offers the most liberal form of education, but contributes to the growth of social virtues by cutting us off from our average relations of life and



THE MYSORE DASARA EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

releasing us from the bondage of our selfish interest and the concerns of our daily occupations.

Necessity for Art.

In countries other than India, exhibitions form the most vital phases of social and educational activity, and in the cities of Europe and America, incessant opportunity to come into contact with diverse manners of pictorial expressions, help to sharpen the edge of aesthetic sensibility and to liberalize the general outlook on life, by pursuading one to sympathise with a view entirely different from our own. For, a work of art is a creative, significant, and unique expression of one's own point of view. The purpose of Art is to reveal new phases of truth, and to create new values. Art plays a humanizing role in our civilisation, directly and indirectly. Directly it leads humanity to higher ideals, to heroic deeds; indirectly it teaches one to make efforts for no practical use. Art counterbalances the brutalising effects of modern commercial education, because Art is a result of reflection, and a source of reflection, of understanding, tolerance and compassion. People of reflection are thinkers 'by excess' and performers only 'by default.' It is the idea that counts with them. People of reflection do not commit crimes. Aside from moral reasons, it is too much effort for them. People of action are performers 'by excess' and not thinkers, not creators; crime for them is just another action. That is why the present civilisation of commercialism and action is so rich in crime. Only Art as an inducive to reflection, can counterbalance it. It is the recognition of the necessity for Art, that explains the enormous number of exhibitions running throughout the year in the principal cities of the West. In New York, during the current month, the calendar of running exhibitions covers 71 different shows. London and Paris are not far behind in the number of their Art shows, these being

in addition to the permanent collections of pictures and sculpture provided in the various public galleries maintained at state expenses.

Art in Industry.

As compared with lavish rations provided in other countries India, in the matter of Art, as in other material wants, is on a permanent starvation diet. The collection of pictures that the valiant members of the Dasara Committee have put together in the Art Section of the Exhibition has, therefore, earned the gratitude of all lovers of the beautiful. For indeed, the collection, though not very large, offers in its several sub-sections of oils, water-colours, photographs, pastels and drawings, a rich feast for the eyes and a sumptuous diet for the hungry mind. The pictures have come from different parts of India, from the recognised centres of Bombay, Lucknow, Calcutta and Madras; only Lahore contributing the fewest items. One is struck at once by the fact, that there is a considerable amount of artistic talent in all parts of India, which, under sympathetic public response and patronage, could make valuable contributions to the Art of our times. If they cannot be exploited to higher educational uses, they can certainly be called upon to co-operate in the development of the various industrial and commercial enterprises. Application of Art to industry is not necessarily a base exploitation of aesthetic expression. Japan has demonstrated to what extent novel and attractive designs add to salable values of the ordinary articles of domestic use. Our textiles, our rugs and carpets, our pots and pans, our furniture and utensils are crying for good designs of effective linear values and colourful patterns. Our posters and labels, our door-mats, curtains and wall-papers can well afford employment to a large group of artists, craftsmen and designers—of which we have enough and to spare, but rarely is the right kind of artist chosen by our

enterprising industrialists, to design patterns and shapes for their wares. Our tea-cups are lagging many miles behind Japanese or even European porcelain wares. Southern India has produced a talented and a trained designer of potteries, but he had to seek patronage in a Japanese pottery work, and could not secure the patronage of Indian producers. Our growing cinema industry can easily absorb a number of our artistic talents, but as a rule, the artist with the necessary qualification never finds employment in our film-producing firms, who specialise in seeking out the dull and the mediocre artist. The production of films from top to bottom is the job of the talented and trained artist. The technician is as much indispensable as the art-photographer—the photographer who has the eyes and the vision of an artist,—who can weave from his lights and shadows, moving compositions of the requisite emotive values,—as effective backgrounds to the different dramatic actions and situations of the play.

Art in Photography.

A glance at the Photographic Section of the Dasara Exhibition is enough to convince one that there is going a-begging any amount of photographic talent of great vision and skill for finding and making pictures out of the prosaic facts and events of our in-door and out-door life. Somehow, our film-producers have missed or ignored these talented camera-artists and appear to be conspiring to keep the production of Indian films at a drab and depressing level. The Water-colour Section is rich with many examples of exqusite colour sensibility, and talented skill of making up exquisite pictures out of familiar scenes and subjects. India has not yet grown her Turners or Constables,—but landscape painting has indeed many happy and skilful interpreters—who lend us new visions to see hackneyed and habituated nature-scenes from a new angle, and with a newly awakened flavour. In

the existing state of economic depression, it is useless to expect that many of these pictures will find appreciative purchasers, and it is disheartening to think that most of these beautiful pictures will go back to the artist's studio, to be consigned to the dust and obscurity of a remote corner, to be forgotten and ignored by the artist himself. An unsold picture is not necessarily a proof of its artistic 'failure.' It is the sentimental and the second-rate picture, which invariably secures the prize, and earns the price affixed on the ticket. The best pictures, the aristocratic few, rarely find their sympathetic appreciators. The popular picture appeals to the many, the masterpiece caters to the few. 'Find fit audience, but few,' is a philosophical maxim, which does not fill the famished frame of the hungry artist. Yet, it has been seen that an artist has preferred a really warm appreciation of his finest work by a discriminative connoisseur, than the fat price that the indiscriminate patron has paid for his unsuccessful pieces. For, it is the tragedy of most public shows that the finest pieces go back to the burial of dust and oblivion in the lumber room at the back of the artist's studio. For this situation, a constructive suggestion may be offered. Our schools and colleges are notoriously dull and depressing in their drab, dismal and vacant walls. Some enterprising firm of publishers has devised reproductions as wall-pictures for our schools and colleges. Very few schools in India can afford to pay even the small charges for these reproductions. Why could not our artists send out their 'rejected' and 'unsold masterpieces' to the schools and colleges, to add colour and charm to the rigours and glooms of our class-rooms. In the juvenile heart, the creations of the artists are likely to raise sympathetic echoes—for which their creators have vainly sought in the exhibition halls. It is seldom realised, that in the juvenile and 'uneducated' vision, there is an abundant amount of the god-given faculty of sensibility to the beauties

of form and colour, than in the educated adult—whose faculty to respond to beauty has long been dulled and paralysed by too much of sophistication and a multitude of other pre-occupations of life. The young boys' aesthetic faculties are in a normally sensitive condition—which gradually lose their receptivity,—and are starved for want of adequate artistic food,—to develop their native aestheic powers.

An Instrument of Education.

By giving away their unsold pictures, our artists will not only secure a body of enthusiastic admirers and appreciators of their talents, but will incidentally contribute to a rich development of a phase of education, which is now neglected in the curriculum of our studies. In Europe and America, with its brave and aggressive programme of 'education through the eyes,'—the picture is looked upon as an indispensable instrument of education, and a formidable rival to text-books and dictionaries. A picture, says the Chinese proverb, is worth ten thousand words!

HORTICULTURE IN MYSORE.

AN OBJECT LESSON FOR INDIA.

By K. S. Gopalaswami Iyengar, B.A., B.L., F.R.H.S.

AS in other departments of activities for the welfare, culture and economic uplift of the people, Mysore has been leading in India in the development of horticulture in the State. The history of horticulture in Mysore dates back to the middle of the 18th century. Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan, the then rulers of Mysore, had in their service, several Frenchmen, soldiers and commanders, who were experts in intensive farming in vogue in France. While in Mysore, they made use of their leisure hours in training a number of Tamil-speaking intelligent labourers got out from Chidambaram and its adjoining parts in French methods of intensive farming. These are the forebears of the present-day gardeners in Bangalore, Mysore and Seringapatam, commonly known as Thigalars. These Thigalars, expert market-gardeners, flood the Bangalore and Mysore markets with bounteous supplies of vegetables and flowers and also export their products to Madras, Bombay and such other distant places.

The next stage in the development of horticulture in Mysore was during the Commission days (1831-1881) when Sir Mark Cubbon, the then Chief Commissioner, with his policy of linking the different parts of the country, formed roads and planted avenues all over the State. In his time, in 1836, an Agri-horticultural Society was also formed. What was a mango garden and a paddy field during the days of Tippu was handed over to the Society as the site for forming a garden and conducting its activities. The Society ceased to exist in six years but its garden became the nucleus of the Government Horticultural Garden in the year 1857. It was extended in

size to 100 acres and under the successive superintendence of experts trained at the famous Kew Gardens in England, the garden was laid out beautifully and planted with collections of plants of ornamental, botanical and economic interests. The Horticultural Department with its seat in Lal-Bagh, as the garden was called, did a lot of work on the agricultural side

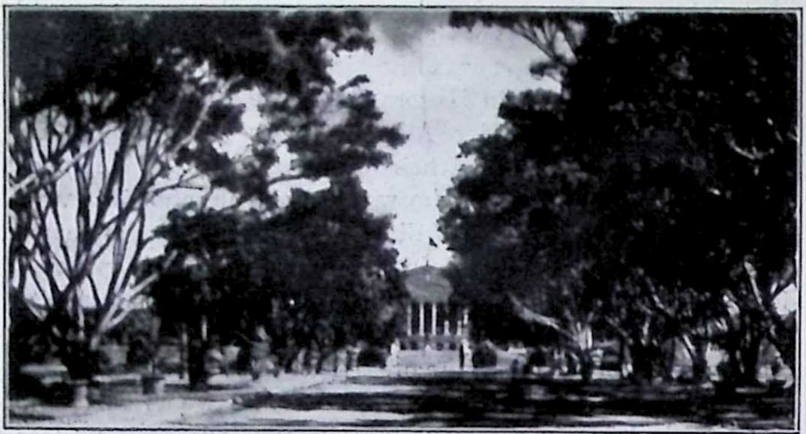


Photo by] AN AVENUE IN CUBBON PARK. [*Cyril and Wiele.*

too and was the forerunner of the Mysore Agricultural Department. It has continued as a separate and independent department, specialising in horticulture and economic botany.

WORK OF THE HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

The Horticultural Department is in charge of all the various Government gardens in the State which are increasing in number every year. With the impetus given by the Horticultural Department, each district headquarter is vying with the others in establishing and maintaining its own garden and the taluks and villages in their turn are becoming gardening-conscious and laying out model gardens in their places for demonstration.

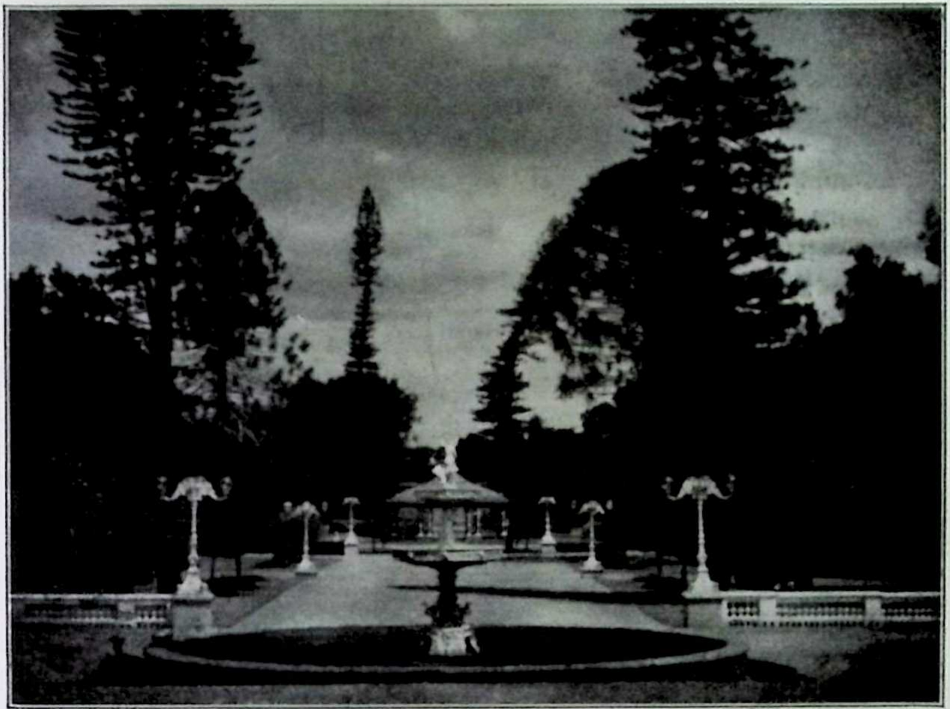


Photo by] [*Cyril and Wiele.*

BANGALORE—THE GOVERNMENT BOTANICAL GARDENS KNOWN AS THE LAL-BAGH.

These were first laid out in 1780 by Hyder Ali and subsequent improvements have made them one of the finest gardens in India. They are greatly appreciated by all classes of people.



Photo by] [*Shankar & Co.*

DARIA DAULAT BAGH OR "GARDEN OF THE WEALTH OF THE SEA."

This was the summer palace of Tipu Sultan and was built by him in 1784.

The Horticultural Department has been responsible for the introduction, acclimatisation, and propagation of economic and garden plants in the Lal-Bagh Nursery. Much work has been done by the Department for the improvement of fruit culture in the State. With the limited funds at its disposal the Department has tried a number of fruit plants with a view to finding out their suitability for local conditions. The Department has given the benefit of its experience in fruit culture for nearly a century to persons when their advice was sought for the selection of suitable sites for forming orchards and for the selection of kinds and varieties to grow therein. Now, the work on fruit culture is carried on in the Central Fruit Nursery at Lal-Bagh and at Krishnarajasagara Orchard. Similar work is done in the Horticultural Sewage Farms at Bangalore and Mysore in the field of vegetable culture. The Department imports every year from Australia and South Africa thousands of disease-free fruit trees, especially apples and citrus trees and supplies them to the public at bare cost price. Thousands of hardy fruit trees raised in the Lal-Bagh Nursery are distributed free to raiyats all over the State for being planted in their backyards. A spraying staff to demonstrate the methods of treating various plant diseases and pests has been established. With a view to promote private enterprise, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja grants fruit culture loans, somewhat on the lines of Takavi loans, to *bona fide* orchardists, free of interest for the first five years and then at very low rates of interest, the principal being repayable in easy instalments after five years. The Government has been taking electricity to the doors of every villager throughout the State and electric power is supplied at almost infinitesimal rate—six pies per unit—for purposes of irrigation. The Electrical Department puts up pumping installations for the raiyats and recovers the cost in instalments.

The Lal-Bagh.

The Lal-Bagh has been the training ground of many, who either after retiring from service in it or after a course of training there, have established their own nurseries round about the Lal-Bagh. With the scientific knowledge in the cultivation of garden plants so gained, the Bangalore nurserymen have built up their business successfully and are suppliers of plants to the remotest parts of India. The little village of Siddapur adjoining the Lal-Bagh raises in lakhs every year the famous genuine "Bangalore graft fruit plants" so much in demand all over India.

The founding of the Mysore Horticultural Society in Bangalore for stimulating interest and enthusiasm in gardening in the public is another important achievement of the Horticultural Department. The Society has taken upon itself the holding of bi-annual Horticultural Shows and Garden Competitions and has been giving advice to its members in matters horticultural. The Society has been mainly responsible for the development, in number and quality, of the home gardens in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore.

Mr. Krumbiegel's Services.

In no small measure is the lead of Mysore in horticultural activities due to the aesthetic taste of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, his love of gardening and his interest in the culture and the well-being of his subjects. The Palace gardens at Bangalore and Fernhill, Ootacamund, are two of the most beautiful in India. Sir Mirza M. Ismail, the Dewan of Mysore, who has been associated with His Highness from boyhood, has, like his master, a keen sense of beauty and possesses the same taste and enthusiasm for horticulture and with the help of Mr. G. H. Krumbiegel, F.R.H.S., the renowned town-planning and landscape gardening expert who was till lately the Director of Horticulture in Mysore and Consulting

Architect to Government, has been responsible for the making of the "Garden Cities" of Mysore and Bangalore and laying out the Terrace Gardens at Krishnarajasagara, which are the cynosures in India. Mr. Krumbiegel still continues to be the Chairman of the Mysore Horticultural Society of which he is the founder and his advice is still sought by the Government in all important matters affecting horticulture and town-planning. Several of his schemes sent up to the Government during his twenty-four years of service in the State, as the head of the Department, for horticultural improvement are pending taking up on hand owing to financial stringency.

Schemes to be Carried Out.

Much has been done and attempted in the field of horticulture in Mysore. Very much more still remains to be done. While the Government of India is just waking to its responsibilities to the people of India to do something towards the improvement of orcharding and farming and of marketing the economic products of the country by instituting an Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and appointing Marketing Officers towards that end, Mr. Krumbiegel had already sent up his recommendations to the Mysore Government several years ago after a survey of fruit cultivation in the Mysore State. He recommended the opening of an Experimental Orchard, a Fruit Nursery, a Horticultural School, and the appointment of Horticultural Inspectors. Some of these recommendations have been carried out in part only. Mysore which has been spending so much for the welfare of its people and the beautification of its cities will, it is hoped in course of time, spend something more for carrying out the schemes of Mr. Krumbiegel in full. Mr. Krumbiegel's cold storage scheme for the preservation of fruits and vegetables from decay till they are marketed, if carried out, would embolden many more to take up to orcharding and farming.

A Tip to British India.

What with the lakhs and lakhs of cases of fruits such as apples, oranges, grape fruits, grapes, etc., being dumped into Indian markets from Australia, South Africa, Japan and America and the country being drained of crores of rupees every year in the purchase of these fruits, it is painful to contemplate that in India, with such vast areas of fertile land available, we are not able to meet our own demand for fruits. The cause for this lack of self-supply is due mostly to the lethargy of the powers-that-be in not putting the people in the way of exploring of its own resources. Governments of self-governing countries as Australia, America, Japan, South Africa, and England spare no pains and trouble in educating the people in methods of horticulture by issuing bulletins free or at nominal cost, embodying the results of researches carried on in large experimental farms and orchards maintained by them and in giving their people all facilities and advice for growing and marketing their produce. We, in India, would not have been so very backward if the Government of India had worked on the same lines as the above self-governing countries or at least done what the Government of Mysore has found it possible to do in Mysore with its comparatively limited resources.

Need for Horticultural Societies.

Local horticultural societies all over the country would do much for awakening and stimulating the dormant interest of our people in horticulture. Now there are only a few of them in India, the important ones being at Bangalore, Madras, Calcutta and Poona. These are not enough. There is need for such societies in each district and taluk. They could be easily started by Collectors and handed over to private bodies for management with liberal grants from Government. Agri-horticultural Shows and Garden Competitions might be organised every now and then by these societies, parks and gardens

maintained at each place. A number of experimental farms and orchards scattered all over the country for purposes of demonstration would satisfy the sore need for training the people. Co-operative societies of fruit growers and farmers could well be formed to eliminate the middleman's profits and to help the growers to get more for their pains. These and the Agri-horticultural Societies, if established and properly working, would relieve the Government of much of its responsibilities in course of time.

A TEMPLE OF SCIENCE.

THE INDIAN INSTITUTE.

(Contributed.)

THE State of Mysore has many things of which it can justly be proud. It bears evidence everywhere, as a distinguished English writer has said, of the hand of progress and of Sir Mirza Ismail. But the pilgrims and traders who throng Mysore during Dasara must concede that easily the most interesting institution and one that they will not readily omit from their itinerary in the State is the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore. Undoubtedly, the most prominent among Indian institutions devoted to scientific and technological research, the Indian Institute of Science is a monument to the munificence of the late Mr. J. N. Tata and the far-sighted generosity of both the Mysore and British Indian Governments. For over twenty-five years, this temple of learning has attracted students from far and near until to-day, under the inspiring guidance of its present Director, Sir C. V. Raman, it has won recognition from the entire scientific world.

Disciplined and disinterested skill has been Sir C. V. Raman's watchword and the result is seen in the remarkable increase in the scientific productivity of the Institute during his administration.

All visitors to the Institute are familiar with its many-sided activities—the work being carried on in the Departments of Physics, General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry and Electrical Technology. Appropriately enough, under the direction of the Nobel Laureate, the Physics Department, initiated by him, has turned out very good work, not only from the purely scientific standpoint but also in relation to industrial applications. Well equipped for optical and X-ray

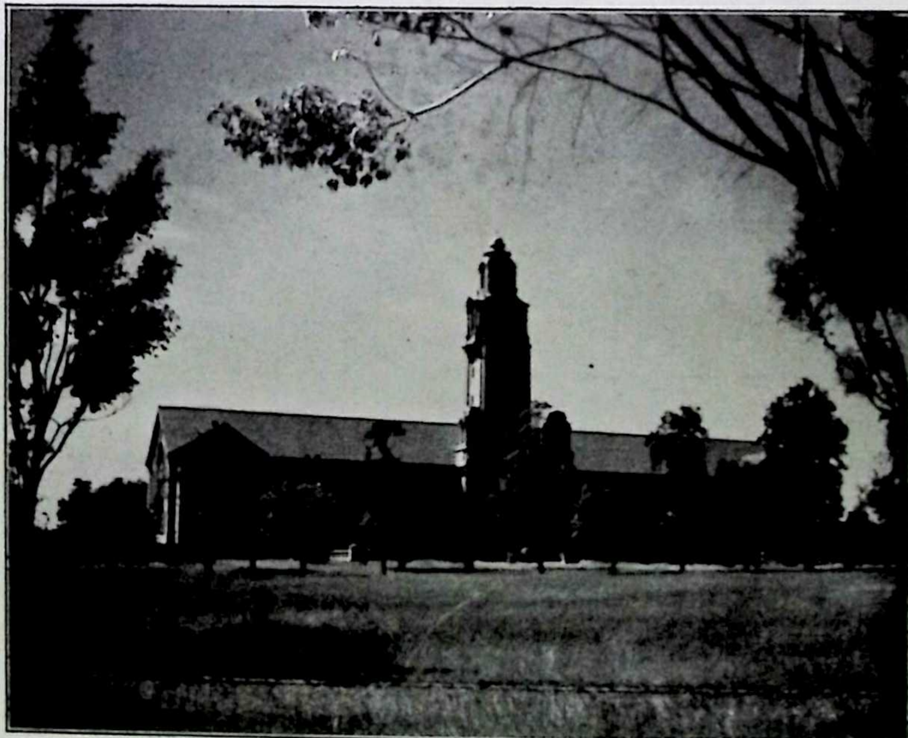


Photo by] BANGALORE—THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE. [*Cyril and Wiele.*

The Institute is devoted to the promotion of advanced studies and original research in pure and applied science and is the first of its kind in India. It is an All-India institution established through the munificence of the late Mr. J. N. Tata of Bombay.

investigations—the Director has recently installed a giant spectroscope for advanced research in light—the Department has done admirable work in the structure of matter, mainly by utilising the " Raman Effect."

No research worth the name can be conducted without apparatus of sensitive calibre and the present Director has placed the Institute under a great debt by organising and equipping a central workshop. By effecting economies, by feeding the various departments and by training students in making things, this central workshop has justified its existence and the enthusiasm and faith of the Director.

As one leaves the Institute, one carries away impressions of a great scientist with a restless desire for achievement and an infectious enthusiasm ; and of students from all over India falling in line with their Chief and striving to add to our knowledge of the laws of matter and to the industrial prosperity of our motherland. The central tower of the Institute rising majestically from the building that houses the Library and the Physics Department, is like a flame of aspiration seeking the sky. Mr. J. N. Tata built greater than he knew. The Institute to-day is a living witness to the capacity of Indians and an earnest of their greatness in the future.

SOLDIERS OF PEACE.

GROWTH OF SCOUTING IN MYSORE.

BY C. SUBBA RAO, M.A. (HONS.)

(*Mysore Educational Service.*)

NO visitor to Mysore during the Dasara festivities can fail to be attracted by the sight of a number of khaki-clad lads, staff in hand and a broad grin on the face, moving about smartly but unostentatiously. Whether at the railway station where he alights, or at the Exhibition Grounds, which he is sure to visit, or on the green parks in front of the Palace during Durbars, or at the Royal Procession or at any place where crowds usually foregather, these lads will be much in evidence. Lending a hand here with a heavy baggage, leading an old man there safely across the busy thoroughfare, consoling a bitterly weeping child in yet another place while attempting to restore it to its parents from whom it has strayed away, they go about doing their daily good turns. The Boy Scouts in Mysore have come to take their inevitable place in the normal civic and social life of the people.

Started early in 1918, with less than 900 Scouts, the Scout Movement in Mysore has grown from strength to strength till to-day it can count nearly 12,500 members of all ranks. There are Cubs, Scouts and Rovers. There are blind Scouts, Scouts in mills and industrial areas. There are inland water Scouts and Scouts from among the juvenile offenders in jails. There is not a branch of scouting left unpractised and not an activity that has not found its sponsors and followers. Hobbies, handicrafts, proficiency or merit badge work, are carried on in various places with varying degrees of success. The Dolphin Swimming Club and the Malleswaram Swimming Association

turn out good swimmers and many life-savers every year. Camps and rallies are regularly held. Mysore Scouts have gone to rallies and jamborees held in Madras and Bombay and even in places beyond the borders of India, to international jamborees at Liverpool, Copenhagen and Godollo and have come back with flying colours. In a word, they have kept abreast of the times and in the front places and can look back proudly on their records and achievements.

Royal Patronage.

Much that has been done could not have been done but for royal patronage and public support. The Boy Scouts of Mysore are indeed extremely fortunate in having as their patron, the benign ruler of the State, His Highness the Maharaja himself. In his noble and saintly life, His Highness typifies all the great virtues for which Scouting stands and is a source of inspiration and strength to all his subjects, the more so to the hero-worshipping youths of the land. His Highness the Yuvaraja has been the Chief Scout from the very inception of the movement. He is the idol of the younger generation in Mysore and by his genial presence and bewitching smiles has captured their youthful imagination. Among the royal personages in India, His Highness was the first to appear in public rallies in shirt and shorts—the regular Scout kit—and the electric influence of this noble and elevating act could better be imagined. It was said that, at the London International Jamboree, the American Scouts appeared on parade in breeches and long-sleeved shirts and that, when they saw the Chief Scout Baden-Powell and all other Scouts in shorts, they cut off, during the night, their breeches at the knee and their shirts at the elbow and appeared the next morning in shorts and short-sleeved shirts to the loud acclamation of the assembled scouts and of the thousands of spectators gathered to see the world muster of the youthful

soldiers of peace. Similar was the influence of His Highness' noble act of brotherhood with the boys of the land, for the next day many officers of State who wished well of Scouting but fought shy of exposing their bare knees to the gaze of the public followed suit and one had the pleasant surprise of seeing them all in khaki shorts, walking no doubt in awkward gaits at first but happy and inspiring withal! Prince Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, as Chief Cub, has enthroned himself already in the hearts of all Cubs, Scouts, and Scouters alike. When in 1925, His Highness the Chief Scout invested his son, first as a Cub and then as the Chief Cub of Mysore in the presence of a large assemblage of Cubs and Scouts of the Province and of a huge crowd of spectators, it was a sight verily for the gods to see. Two generations in the Royal House of Mysore were definitely pledging themselves for the service of the boyhood of Mysore and thus making history in the annals of the Mysore Scout Association. Acts of generous royal patronage are too many to be detailed here but it will be no exaggeration to say that but for this gracious royal approval and abiding personal interest in all that concerns the improvement and well-being of the younger generation, Scouting in Mysore could not have taken such rapid strides. The Maharaja's All-round Efficiency Flag, the Yuvaraja's First Aid Shield and the Jayachamarajendra Totem Poles are permanent gifts to the Cubs and Scouts of Mysore, ever reminding them of the royal solicitude in their welfare.

There are, according to the Indian Scout Year Book, fifty-three associations in India, affiliated to the All-India Boy Scouts Association. A study of the census for 1935 shows that there are 49,400 members (in round numbers) in Bombay, 46,400 in the Punjab, 36,600 in the United Provinces, 32,300 in the Central Provinces, 16,700 in Madras, 14,200 in Bengal and 12,000 in Bihar and Orissa and 10,800 in Mysore. Mysore thus, stands eighth in order. She is, of course, easily the first

among Indian States. As regards progress in the Provinces, we have to compare these totals with the area and population of each and make a comparative study. If Mysore with $6\frac{1}{2}$ millions of people and 11,000 Scouts is taken as the unit, it is found that Bengal, Bihar and Madras are no serious rivals for rank. Bombay should have 4 units, the Punjab 4 units, the U. P. 8 units and the C. P. 3 units. The United Provinces and the Central Provinces get eliminated, Bombay and the Punjab leading.

THE HEADQUARTERS AND DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS.

The Central Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of Mysore consist of a State Scout Council, with an Executive Committee to carry on the administration. The Executive Committee is composed of elected and co-opted members and of representatives of the District Scout Councils. The Director of Public Instruction is the Chairman but the (Chief) Executive Officers are the Chief Scout Commissioner and the Deputy Chief Scout Commissioner. Justice Mr. K. Shankaranarayana Rao, M.A., B.L., has held the high office of Chief Commissioner for over a decade and a half with distinction and ever-growing zeal and energy. Of him it may be said that he grows younger as he advances in years. Major Y. V. Krishnamurthi, M.B., B.S., D.T.M., the Deputy Chief Scout Commissioner, has risen to this position by dint of his work as a District Scout Commissioner for several years, and the First Class Public Service Medal awarded to him by His Highness the Maharaja in open Durbar is a token of his wonted zeal and disinterested labours in the cause of Scouting. To help these honorary officers, the Executive Committee appoints an Organising Secretary and an adequate staff of ministerial officers to carry on the daily routine. An idea of the amount of work turned out can be gathered when it is known that, in addition to co-ordinating the work of the

District Scout Councils and the Local Scout Associations, taking the annual census and keeping the correspondence up-to-date, the Headquarters maintains a co-operative stores as the equipment department, publishes Scout literature in the vernaculars for propaganda and for the use of Scouts and Scouters and edits English and Kannada versions of a magazine. Of course, the co-operation of several voluntary workers is secured and it is really creditable to see the Headquarters run largely by voluntary agencies, devoted to the cause of the boyhood of the country.

As regards Scout work in the Districts, it may be pointed out that each locality with one or more troops has a Local Scout Association, including on its membership, parents and well-wishers, local educationists, officers, and non-officials interested in the movement as well as active Scout workers. Between the Local Association and the Central Headquarters, there are District Scout Councils with District Scout Commissioners as District Scout Executives. These District Councils are a feature in Mysore and they have done splendid work, though manned and run entirely by non-official voluntary workers. It is gratifying to observe that these District Scout Councils work in close collaboration with District Boards, many of whose leaders take a prominent part in Scouting also The District Officers, Deputy Commissioners in particular, invariably help the District Scout Councils in several ways and where their co-operation and active support are assured, Scouting can make headway. Local initiative and enterprise are developed; and while the organisation closely follows the Baden-Powell Movement, local needs and national outlook are not sacrificed.

Some Noteworthy Features.

The extension of the Scout Movement into the remotest corners of the State has given it a new start and a new impetus

The Boy Scout was at first a town product, to the rustic onlooker, a strange being in a strange kit, keeping pace like soldiers with trumpets blowing and flags flying. But now, the Boy Scout is appearing in the villages, not indeed as a stranger disturbing the proverbial peace or the slothful ease of rural life but as a friend lending a hand in every useful activity that concerns the countryside. Scouting is being linked closely with rural life and this 'ruralisation' of scouting has gone on apace in recent months.

The village teacher can do his little bit in the regeneration of rural India but without the co-operation of the village officials and of the leaders, much cannot be done. The ideal would be to induce each Village Panchayat to constitute itself into a Local Scout Association, but that is a difficult, extremely difficult, ideal to achieve unless the villagers are definitely impressed. To interest the village officers, like Shanbhogs, Patels and Chairmen of the Panchayats, and educated young men who are now going 'back to land' wherever possible, some training camps were held exclusively for them and the results so far seem to be encouraging. All instruction was in the vernaculars and the training syllabus was suitably modified to suit village conditions. In addition to regular Scout work based on the Scout tests, games and practices, subjects like rural sanitation and hygiene, first aid to animals, elementary horticulture, village industries and what Scouts can do in them, village road-making, tank repairing and other useful works, and general educational facilities in the village, were included. The author of this article had the privilege to be associated, as Camp Officer and Instructor, with three such camps and the general enthusiasm displayed and the level of efficiency attained by the campers hold out hopes of a bright future for our villages, if similar camps could be organised on more beneficial lines based on the experience gained and if strenuous attempts are made to follow up the

work and further develop the energies thus released. Where grass is allowed to grow under the feet, village conservatism is powerful enough, like the octopus, to swallow everything. The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, Mr. K. V. Anantaraman, the Industries Commissioner, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, and several of the Deputy Commissioners have taken very kindly to this scheme. Rural scouting was talked of and practised on a small scale for some time previously but the honour of being the pioneer in sponsoring the scheme and of interesting actively the Headquarters in it as an integral part of its activity lies with Mr. J. B. Mallaradhya, M.A., the then Sub-Divisional Officer at Dodballapur and a member of the Executive Committee in Bangalore.

This ruralisation scheme aims at two things—one, to start Cub packs and Scout troops in the villages for the benefit of the boys in them, and two, to train a number of adult scouters who will organise and run Rover crews attached to the packs or troops but definitely working the village improvement scheme, as outlined in the programme of training. They will work on their own initiative but will be ready to place their services at the disposal of Government departments working with similar aims. In this connection, it would be of interest to note what a sub-committee appointed to formulate proposals has to say. Every District Scout Council should select, the committee opines, not more than ten villages in its area for its special patronage in any year. Some of the services that could be rendered by the Scouts are—service at jatras, melas and other annual gatherings; digging manure and refuse pits; washing cattle; planting avenue trees, clearing slum areas, cleaning village ponds, tanks and temples; arranging games for village children; organising bhajana parties, reading rooms and libraries; broadcast and magic lantern entertainments; health songs and other educational activities. Success, of course, depends upon intelligent planning, adequate finance

and proper supervision and control and the leadership and loyalty of the workers. The committee also suggest the appointment of a Headquarter Commissioner for rural Scouting.

SOME URGENT PROBLEMS.

The Headquarters, then, are charged with the responsibility of making the rural scheme a success. They have, in addition, other problems of expansion and consolidation to deal with. Till recently the question of a permanent home for the Scout Movement was in the forefront; and this need has been met by the new Headquarters building which was opened by the Deputy Chief Scout. It is an imposing building and will stand as a worthy monument at once of the past achievements of Mysore Scouting and of its hopes and aspirations for the future.

MYSORE'S DISTINCTION IN SPORTS.

CHAMPIONS, PAST AND PRESENT.

BY "V. B."

TO the tourist as well as to the student of history, Mysore always provides a rich panorama of natural charm and beauty and profuse architectural splendour spread like a canopy over the length and breadth of the entire State. In art, literature, leadership and quick adoption of modern ideas, Mysore State has already achieved noteworthy distinction and evoked very wide and well-deserved praise. But this impact of modern ideas and the surge of a new pulsating life have been felt not only on the quick-changing economic values of life and political and industrial outlook in the State but also on other pursuits which tend towards the physical well-being of her children.

THE EARLY GIANTS.

It is but natural therefore that Mysore, quick in adopting modern tendencies, should have won distinction easily in the world of sport as well. In fact, Mysore has greatly distinguished herself in football, tennis, hockey and cricket and won international honours. From very early days, when Bangalore developed into a great centre of sports activity due mainly to the fine example set by the military officers then stationed in the Cantonment area, the love for games received powerful impetus and grew gradually into a bright flame as several votaries gathered round it and drew inspiration from the giants of those good old memorable days. The most outstanding product of the early twentieth century sports awakening was that great and stalwart B. Jayaram who easily found an honoured place on the map of international cricket. In football,

Chetty and T. P. Kailasam and in recent times Lakshminarayana and Ramanna have brought great honour to the State by their splendid achievements. The standard of hockey has been also uniformly good and it is only lack of opportunity that has deprived the local talent from distinguishing itself in the international field. Again, Mysore has produced some very fine tennis players, the most distinguished among them being B. Jayaram, U. D. Ranga Rao and in recent times B. Rachappa. Though the opportunity for making a mark on international tennis was not there, these veterans had a wonderful record in their best days and even now tennis can claim many promising votaries who may develop into champions with proper training and direction.

Prof. Tait's Inspiration.

As I stated before, the evolution of Mysore cricket has a touch of romance about it. There is no denying the fact that, with the good old Professor J. G. Tait on one side for inspiration and the great example of military officers on the other for emulation, the love for cricket spread with phenomenal success in Bangalore and resulted in the popularity of the game. In his characteristic reminiscent mood, Mr. B. Jayaram, the veteran cricketeer of Mysore, recalls elsewhere the days when this game attracted young men and exercised a powerful influence on their minds. In those days, only cricket and tennis happened to be the rage and the young men took to them with great enthusiasm and zest. Moreover, cricket of a very high order was played in those days by the military officers stationed in the Cantonment, and the fine example set by them on and off the field gave a powerful impetus to the aspiring youth. Luckily for Bangalore, Professor J. G. Tait came on the scene at that stage and to him must go the real credit of harnessing that new-born love for cricket and giving it an authentic shape and form. He was practically the maker of cricket in Mysore,

and if to-day cricket is played as it ought to be played and fostered, the honour of laying the foundation for that spirit must be largely Tait's. Under his inspiring example, the clay of Mysore cricket was given shape, and Jayaram was one of the earliest who came under his spell and fulfilled the high expectations of his great master.

The Great Jayaram.

Starting his cricket career as a Central College player, Jayaram rose to the proud position of an All-India player and represented South India along with Sesha Char in the first unofficial tour of an Indian team to England in 1911. His achievements in England are too well-known to need detailed mention in a review of this kind and a most fitting tribute to his cricketing talent was paid when in later years of his sojourn in England on official duty he was chosen regularly to play for the Crystal Palace Club in the company of W. G. Grace, W. L. Murdoch, Tom Richardson and other epic figures of English cricket. Thus the great example set by pioneers like Jayaram, K. Subbiah and Baille Seshagiri Rao, to name only a few, served to keep the flame of cricket burning with intensity, resulting in widespread popularity of the game. Both the Central and Maharaja's Colleges have in recent times produced cricketeers of very good type, while private clubs have also been taking part in popularising the game. Several players from both Bangalore and Mysore have distinguished themselves in South Indian cricket, the most notable among them being P. A. Kanickkam, Bhaskara Rao, P. Yoganatham, B. J. Srinivas, P. R. Krishnappa and in the present time Y. S. Ramaswamy, B. R. Nagaraja Rao, B. K. Garudachar, Shafi Darasha and B. Neelakantan. All the last-mentioned players have made a mark as bowlers in present-day cricket. But outstanding batsmen are lacking at present, though the talent is there. With the affiliation of Mysore cricket to the

All-India body and the impetus given to it in general, this game is bound to grow in quality and popularity in the near future.

Hockey and Football.

Of hockey and football, it is somewhat difficult to speak with the same optimism that one naturally feels about cricket. No doubt, it is true that T. P. Kailasam in his college career in England upheld the banner of Mysore in international football, and in recent times both Ramanna and Lakshminarayana won laurels as representatives of India on the South African grounds. Besides, football was once the rage both in Bangalore and Mysore and Chetty was the most conspicuous product of that surge. But unfortunately, at present, the pure love of the game has been replaced by unhealthy pursuits for "gates," and tournaments have either become too many or too scarce according to the fluctuation of individual caprices. Particularly in Bangalore where we have very good talent, there has been a sudden drop in the barometer of football this season, and several players have to go elsewhere for making a mark. Mysore, we are glad to note, is giving a good deal of encouragement to football which is very popular among all classes of people.

The story of Mysore hockey makes very sad reading indeed. In point of talent, zeal for the game and standard of play, Bangalore is in no way behind other provinces in India. Lovers of the game who have seen the Bangalore Indians in action and watched their brilliant centre-forward, Narain Naidu perform, cannot but have high praise for Bangalore hockey. But unfortunately this game is dying for want of proper encouragement and impetus. The few tournaments that are conducted in hockey are so poorly patronised that the organisers in spite of their best will are unable to make both ends meet. Luckily however, there is a silver lining even to the darkest cloud, and it is fondly hoped that the seeming eclipse will soon pass away and that hockey in Bangalore will emerge

again from its eclipse and take its rightful place among the premier sports of the State. The visit of the All-India Olympic team has done a great deal to revive interest in hockey in Bangalore where talent lies unrecognised by the larger sporting public. Thanks to the enthusiasm of Mr. R. S. Milton, the President of the Bangalore Hockey Association, and the keen encouragement given to the game in the colleges of both the City and the Cantonment, hockey is stirring itself again and may very soon become as popular as cricket or football.

Development of Tennis.

Mysore tennis is as old as cricket and is very widely played all over the State. With the young, it opens out a great vista for distinction and with the old it is a certain weapon to keep them fit. Though this game has attracted generally the upper middle classes, its popularity has never been lost on the general public and with the spread of private clubs and college courts tennis has reached a fairly good standard both in Bangalore and Mysore. In the early days, B. Jayaram distinguished himself in tennis also along with several others, while U. D. Ranga Rao of Mysore made a great mark in Western India championships defeating once the great Shimidzu in a Bombay tournament. During modern times, B. Rachappa was a prominent figure in Mysore tennis and for long remained invincible on local courts until the young C. L. Mehta of Calcutta wrested the honours three years ago on the Cubbon Park courts. At present, besides Rachappa who is still quite good, there are several good and promising players in the making like Dr. S. Rajan, H. K. Narasimhamurthy, V. Bashyam, B. R. Kapinipathaiya, R. S. Vasanta and a host of others who have taken to the game in the proper spirit. The style of game also has gone through several changes, and in the beginning base-line play was very much in vogue with a mere flat forehand drive as the chief weapon of attack. Next the

game took another shape and that was the development of chop-strokes followed by moderate use of the feet. For some time it was neither a base-line play purely nor a mid-court one and with the example of U. D. Ranga Rao who, playing from the back court, employed a peculiar flick and subtlety to his forehand drives with great effect, the game passed through yet another stage of hard strenuous duel of merely ground strokes. With the appearance of C. Ramaswamy, the Cambridge Blue, tennis in both Madras and here took a new turn and top-spin drives became the rage of the day. A radical change in the method of attack and general courtcraft was further brought about by the visits of European players who gave a great impetus to the game in India. Tennis in the State to-day is a happy commingling of both old and modern styles, and more effective methods of attack and quick foot-work have been discovered and practised largely in place of mere physical stamina test without, however, neglecting this aspect, as it is one of the many vital factors in a class game. The local clubs that are running tournaments every year have of late turned a new leaf in inviting All-India players to participate, and consequently the standard of local game has been considerably raised and improved. There is a great future for cricket, tennis and hockey in the State.

MEMORIES OF MYSORE CRICKET.

B. JAYARAM LOOKS BACK.

BY B. JAYARAM.

Mr. B. Jayaram, the veteran cricketer of Mysore and All-India, who was a member of the Indian team that first visited England in 1911 and who retired long ago, recalls in the following article some very pleasant memories of cricket and tennis as played nearly half-a-century back. From his carefully recorded diary, we have culled here and there some very interesting sidelights on the great personalities of cricket and tennis that dominated the stage then. Particularly to the older generation, the name of Jayaram will be very familiar and to the present one a source of inspiration and hence interest in his diary.

DURING the years of 1884 to 1887 I was keen on learning cricket and tennis and was a smart little rider. My father always kept good ponies, Gulf-Arabs, and used to be proud of seeing me riding them, bare-backed or saddled, daringly. I was lucky in not having had a bad "spill," though some of the ponies I rode on were bad "bolters."

It is pleasant to recall the names of some of the reputed cricketers of the time: —Baille Venkoba Rao had the reputation of being the fastest round-arm bowler and I have never forgotten the nasty accident I had when trying to stop a fast ball of his nearly twenty yards behind the wicket, which getting between the third and fourth fingers of my right arm, split open the palm of the hand to a length of nearly two inches. It took me over a month to heal and made my people warn me never to play circket any more. Neither the "hurt" nor the "threat" made any impression on my little mind,

which seems to have become more determined than before to love and play the game.

Years and years after I remember meeting him on several occasions while travelling by train. He had risen to the rank of the Traffic Superintendent on the S. M. R. line and showed by his dignified paunch that he had prospered well in his service.

Dr. Ramaswami Iyenger, the Optician, was also spoken of as a great bowler of those days, but I had never seen him perform. Later in life he always took a real pride and interest in my career and proved a true friend till his death, which deprived him of the post of the Senior Surgeon in the State. He and his good Bengali wife did much to improve social life in Bangalore.

"The Bamboo Tree."

Another very interesting cricket enthusiast of the time was Ramakrishna Rao—a very tall, lanky youth who went by the nick-name of "Bamboo chedi" (literally a bamboo tree). His cast of mind was of a literary type and he was a good scholar in literature and history. He was employed on the Palace staff in Mysore. When I used to meet him during the annual Durbar functions, he always expressed his great desire to write a book on "Central College Cricket," but he never seems to have got the time for doing so.

The name Maigundadeva Mudaliar was very familiar in those days. He was the son of Arcot Narayanaswami Mudaliar, a very wealthy merchant in Bangalore Cantonment, who owned a big shop, many bungalows and other properties.

He had the reputation of having been the "mightiest slogger" of his time and had given up playing cricket during my young days, though I remember playing tennis with him and his two very intimate pals Chelvaraj Mudaliar, and Singaravelu Mudaliar, who were good tennis players. He was a very jolly man

and a thoroughly good sportsman. He was the father of cricket and tennis in Bangalore Cantonment, and the founder of the "Social Club." Unfortunately, he was suddenly and untimely snatched away by an attack of cholera during the Dasara festivities in Mysore.

His eldest son *Rao Bahadur* Thangavelu Mudaliar, is carrying on the tradition of the old family and is a very keen golfer and tennis and bridge player.

The Coorg Boys.

As I have already hinted, the athletic sports such as running jumping, etc., had attained a high order of excellence during the principalship of Charles Waters and cricket and tennis were becoming very popular and there used to be a striking number of Coorg boys, who were very attractive sportsmen.

Among the latter may be remembered the names of Bopiah, Nanjappa, K. Subbiah, C. Subbiah, C. Devaiah and C. M. Ganapathy. The first two were athletes who used to carry away the best prizes for running, pole-vaulting, etc. The remaining four played cricket and tennis.

My admiration and affection for K. Subbiah have always been genuine and great. He was the beloved captain of cricket and tennis during the time of Charles Waters and presumably during the first few years of Dr. John Cook's principalship. He was fond of me and took a keen interest in my sporting career and was the first captain under whom I played cricket and tennis. He was gracefully tall, strong and sturdy and remarkably cool-headed, well-mannered, and modest. "Side" which makes the best of men despicable was entirely foreign to him. He was, indeed, a great personality and a gentleman born. As captain he was a great success and was respected and loved by everybody.

His batting and bowling performances were always attractive; he played remarkably straight and his clean, lofty drives went

invariably over the bowler's head. His "under-arm" bowling was really phenomenal: he not only could vary his pitched balls effectively, but sent down three balls in an over right along the ground with such speed and a peculiar flight that the "grubby-ball" would suddenly "kick-up" when, it came within a foot or two of the batsman and thus "beat" and bowl him. As no other under-arm bowler could bowl such a ball, it is evident that he used to deliver such balls with a peculiar "flick" of his wrist only known to him or coming naturally to him. They were comparable to a "racket" or "shell" that flew straight for a specific distance and then burst suddenly.

When the Great Davy met His Match.

I can still vividly recall to my mind a memorable match between the College and the Bangalore Gymkhana which included some really fine batsmen; among the latter was one Lieut. Davy of the Oxfordshire Regiment, related to Mr. Winacombe Davy of the Mysore Excise Department, who was then the most brilliant and dashing player. He had recently scored 180 runs against the M.C.C. team from Madras, which was skippered by Sir Henry C. King, who used to bowl round-arm very fast and in those days. In the second innings, Bangalore wanted only a few runs to beat Madras. In came the hero and won the match by hitting two glorious sixes—the one he hit to the square-leg off H. C. King was a mighty rare one and I can still see it flying high up in the air and then travelling half a mile beyond the western boundary.

I have not yet seen a more powerful batsman than Davy—he was very young, handsome, fairly tall and beautifully built—he used to hit the ball so hard and true and so close to the pitch that most of his drives would travel more like catches than "bump-balls." One can realise the strength of his strokes when I say that a new ball was split into two after he

had scored his 100 runs and another new ball had to be sent out. He was my "ideal" at the time, whose style I must have copied.

When he came in first wicket down against our College, we knew that we would be in for leather-hunting; but to our greatest surprise and merriment, K. Subbiah bowled him clean with his very first ball. Personally I was disappointed not to have seen him get a few runs instead of a "blob." In the second innings he did not come in early and not until K. Subbiah took himself off; but when Davy came in, he put himself on and I am blessed if he did not bowl him clean with the second ball for another "duck." Major Faunce was the only batsman who played K. Subbiah with confidence.

Tennis in South India.

During the period 1886-1889 I was coming on fast as a useful batsman and an attractive tennis player for my age and size. I was too small to be admitted into the first eleven though I used to play against our fastest deadly bowler, Baille Seshagiri Rao, with less fear and funk than the bigger boys and men.

Tennis in fact was also the rage at the time. The Cubbon Park tennis courts were kept in tip-top condition by the officers of the Bangalore Civil and Military Station. Mr. Hewetson, the Chief Police Officer of the Station, was in charge of the courts and was a very keen player himself. He awarded a cup for the best player among schools and colleges. Each institution sent up two boys.

Chinniah Chetty and myself represented the Central College. Ward and Dickson played for the Bishop Cotton School. The others are of no consequence and out of my memory.

Unfortunately Chinniah and I were drawn to play against each other in the very first heat, and I won after considerable excitement.

About the end of the year 1888, I played in the junior "singles" in Madras and won the silver cup.

During the years of my college and sporting career, I had lost the keenness and zest for tennis which I played only on a few occasions under request.

At one time, when Captain Tulloch in the Sappers was keen to play in the South Indian Tournament, I used to play regularly three times a week on the lovely Cubbon Park courts to give him good practice. He was a very fine handsome fellow very quick on his feet and good at tennis and cricket.

I do not think he stopped long enough in Bangalore to play in the S.I.T. at Madras.

Charles Higginbotham was the champion for a number of years until one Mr. Groves from England came and defeated him in 1892 or so.

Charles Higginbotham was undoubtedly a more graceful and entertaining performer but Groves was more accurate and consistent.

The latter was the first tennis player, who showed Indians base-line play with hard low drives, his first and second services having the same pace and accuracy.

I remember playing "C. H." on his own court at Madras when he was at the top of his form and fame. He got two sets to my one though. I had taken one or two games more in the aggregate number of games in the three sets. He certainly had the better of me on his own court which was softer and more crumbly than the harder gravel courts I was used to.

If the same match had been played on the Cubbon Park courts—always hard and true—I would have probably beaten him.

The Mighty Ajax.

Somewhere about this time a good friend of mine by name A. Loader, engine-driver on the Madras Railway line, who was

a very keen tennis player, had brought down a tennis marker, Ajax, to play on this court. Ajax was a better player than "C. H." and used to give the latter his daily practice.

I did not know Ajax by name or repute and Loader apparently wanted to spring a surprise on me. He asked me to tea and tennis as usual. After tea, he introduced me to Ajax and asked me to play him.

I played him and soon found myself pitted against a "black little demon." Being a rare good racquet player and extremely light and quick on his feet and with his wrist, he beat me very easily in the first set.

In the second set I played him with more respect and caution—studied his weak points and despised his strong ones. I scored more games though I lost the set (not so easily as the first).

By this time, I had learnt the "forte" of the man. He was so extraordinarily quick on his feet and with his wrists and so accurate and deadly with his returns and strokes to his left that he always set you a trap by leaving a big gap to his left.

So I began to worry him by sending my strokes straight at him and to his right. This method soon proved his weakness and I had the man completely beaten and took the following three sets, much to his surprise and to the joy of my friends.

Ajax paid me a very high compliment and then told me of his renowned career. He had been sent to England to play on the Wimbledon courts but had failed to impress well owing to the cold weather, having been made to play with shoes and heavy flannels and thick underwear which naturally prevented him from playing his best.

He was all his life used to the hot climate of Madras—always walked about and played bare-footed and never wore warm heavy clothing. So he must have felt like a fish out of water in England.

This game with him pleased me more than any other game in my life.

I did not know the man or his reputation—was not even prepared to play a match game—there was no crowd to cheer or jeer—no medal or cup for enticement—no laurels or reputation to win or lose.

I simply met a man worthy of his mettle and I did my best to beat him for the mere love of the sport. In fact, my temperamental disposition and strong instincts have always been such as to despise any form of incentive or inducement to make me do my best in sport or school work. If I wished to play, I did so with all my heart and soul and never wanted a bait or an award for winning.

FORTUNATE BANGALORE.

From my boyhood I loved to watch the game of cricket more than any other game and had learnt the art of playing it with a straight stick and a small racquet ball.

In those days we had an excellent opportunity of witnessing first-rate cricket played on the Bangalore Gymkhana grounds every Thursday (being a military holiday). Bangalore was singularly lucky in attracting the best class of civilian and military officers owing to its lovely climate, and the standard of regimental cricket was of a very high order, as football and hockey were not much in vogue. During the period of six or seven years from 1883 to 1890, I seldom seem to have been absent from watching every Thursday the game played on the Gymkhana ground. We had no gate-money to pay and I religiously "cut" my classes on Thursdays and studiously watched cricket all day from the very beginning to the end of the play.

*　　*　　*　　*

B. Seshagiri-Rao was the brother of B. Venkoba Rao who has already been mentioned by me as a reputed round-arm

bowler of his day. Evidently there was the "bowling strain" running in the family as B. Seshagiri Rao proved to be our "demon" bowler after K. Subbiah and Nanjundiah. He was deadly on the batsman's body as well as on his wickets. At practice I was the only batsman who played his bowling without funking and running away from the ball. On his day he was unplayable and was a terror to the Gymkhana batsmen.

Great Batsman from Ceylon.

As we were considered a pretty useful side, the Gymkhana arranged a fixture for our team to play against an European Ceylon team that visited Bangalore for the first time . . . I am not sure if he was Sir or his initial C but his name was Wilds. He was not awe-inspiring to look at and was of the same build of body as Captain Tulloch and Captain Turner of the West Riding Regiment, but his wonderful foot-work and wrist-work were singular.

I have seen mighty hitters like Jessop and Sinclair of South Africa, also fast run-getters like Captain Dewing, Lt. Davy and Chinnery who scored over a century for the Oxford Authentics in Bangalore in very quick time; but no one have I yet seen who can be compared with Wilds. This batsman was like a magician and scored his 120 and odd runs without effort and like lightning. He was a perfect study to watch, especially his playing on the "off-side"; he showed supreme contempt for the man behind the wicket and ignored his existence. As soon as the ball was delivered, he used to step out a yard or two from the crease and made a forward stroke and when the ball was somewhat too short, he waited and played the ball from where he was and put it away very cleverly into the gap between point and third man. I had not till then seen any batsman play our "demon" with such supreme contempt and confidence as Wilds who took the shine out of poor Seshagiri. After Seshagiri left the college and joined

Government service, he seems to have given up cricket entirely. He bowled with a natural off-break and the first time I saw the great Surrey bowler, Tom Richardson, play for the Crystal Palace team at Salisbury, I thought of our old Seshagiri. Richardson was a much taller and heftier man than Seshagiri and bowled typical "over-hand" but the latter bowled with an action which was neither typical "over-hand" nor "over-head" though nearer "over-hand."

* * * *

Major Bruce was in charge of the Gymkhana cricket during the period from 1890 to 1896 or thereabout. He was not much of a performer with the bat or the ball but was very popular among the officers and treated me with great kindness. During this period I played for and against the Gymkhana and was considered quite good for the Presidency Eleven. When Lord Hawke's team visited Madras and Bangalore about the year 1892, I had been selected to play against them both but to my very bad luck I was unable to play owing to the dislocation of my left elbow which had happened a month previous to the English team's visit.

Memories of English Players.

Lord Hawke's team had very easy victories in Madras and very few of the batsmen seem to have stood up against the fast bowling of Hazeltine who was the first bowler of the modern fast bowler's type that had come out to India. A very tall man like Hazeltine, running furiously for fifty or sixty yards from behind the wicket and plugging away the ball for all his worth, must have been a very uncanny experience to batsmen who had not seen the like of such bowling. Especially to players who are somewhat timid and nervous and who think more of protecting their body than their wicket, such bowling proves formidable. But against real good batsmen, such fast bowling is not of any serious

consequence except on occasions when pitches play pranks and accidents happen. On the score of merit, I am not a believer in, or an advocate of fast bowling.

Barnes was the best bowler that I have yet seen. He did not waste much time and energy in running a hundred yards and yet bowled fast enough. He used to bowl three or four balls with a tremendous lot of "off-break" to get the batsman to cover the wickets in playing them and one or two with a delicate leg-break to beat the batsman and a straight ball deliberately to get you out lbw, in case you failed to play the ball. You could well consider yourself a d—d good batsman if you survived against his brainy bowling.

Braund of Somerset was a fine type of a slow leg-break bowler. I had seen him at Lord's, in Gentlemen *vs.* Players, take the first five batsmen like Maclaren, Jones, Ranji, F. S. Jackson and Jessop for a very few runs. He was also a very intelligent fielder and brought off catches where many would have failed to get anywhere near them.

UPLIFT OF THE DEPRESSED.

WORK OF HARIJAN SEVAK SANGHA.

By M. A. Gopalaswamy Iyengar, M.A., B.L.

(*Member, Mysore Provincial Board, All-India Harijan Sevak Sangha, Bangalore.*)

THE Harijans (called Adi-Karnatakas and Adi-Dravidas) in Mysore form the second largest community (the first being the Vokkaligars) with a population of 1,000,326 persons, and are a little less than one-sixth of the total population of the State. They are distributed fairly equally all over the State. But the largest number are found in the Mysore District. The lowest proportion of literates in the State is found among them. The proportion of literates for the whole population of the State is 91 per thousand, while the proportion of literates among the Harijans is only 18 per thousand. The Harijans are regarded as a part and parcel of the Hindu community. The Superintendent of Census in Mysore observes that the Harijans have so far made no claim to be treated as non-Hindu and that there is nothing to distinguish them from the groups which are treated as Hindus. The chief occupation of the Harijans is agriculture. A small number of them are engaged in cotton spinning and weaving and in tanning and leather work. On account of their untouchableness and want of education, the range of occupations that they can choose is very small. The degree of untouchability varies according to local conditions. The Harijans generally have their dwellings at one end of a village and not scattered among the houses of the other castes within the village. "Orthodox persons of the higher communities would still be horrified at the suggestion that the

Adi-Karnataka should be treated like the members of any other caste. There is still difficulty about the Adi-Karnataka taking water from the common well; the difficulty about his children's admission into a school has not disappeared everywhere. But the influence of Mahatma Gandhi is producing an impression and it may be expected that popular conscience will soon be roused to put an end to untouchability as a custom."—(*Mysore Census Report*, 1931, p. 328.)

It was about thirty years ago that any serious attempt was made by the Government and the indigenous organisations for the spread of education among the Harijans and the amelioration of their conditions. Till then their uplift appears to have been left to the enterprise of the Christian missionary bodies.

POLICY OF GOVERNMENT.

The policy of the Government of Mysore towards the Harijans appears from the following extract from the address of the Dewan, Sir Mirza M. Ismail, to the Representative Assembly in June 1927 :—

"Let me say a special word about the policy that Government have been following in respect of the amelioration of the condition of the Adi-Karnatakas which they regard as one of their special cares.

"Exceptional facilities have been created for the education of members of these classes and methods have been adapted to suit their circumstances. Scholarships have been sanctioned; exemptions have been granted from school and examination fees; provision has been made for the free distribution of clothes, slates and books. Special free hostels have been instituted at Bangalore, Mysore, Tumkur, Chikmagalur and Hassan. The Adi-Karnatakas have not only the right of admission to all schools, but 605 special schools have been provided for them. There are altogether 16,575 students now under tuition. In regard to agriculture and sericulture,

special concessions have been sanctioned in the way of grants of land and other facilities.

"No external improvement has enduring quality without a corresponding internal improvement in courage, hope and self-reliance and the most potent means of promoting these qualities is co-operation. Strenuous efforts have been made to foster the co-operative spirit among these classes, funds have been created to encourage thrift and to provide workers with the implements of their business. Their latest measure is the organisation of a co-operative agricultural colony with due provisions of land, capital, live-stock and direction. This is an important scheme for, if it succeeds, it will have indicated some lines of further action.

"Government have extended to the Adi-Karnatakas representation on all the great constitutional bodies of the State and have ever listened to their voice with respect and sympathy. Inequalities in the constitution of society there will be, for such inequalities are in the nature of things, but it is the duty of the State to afford to all communities the best and fullest opportunities for the development of their God-given gifts, only so can society as a whole find stability and strength. The State, which has been well called 'the only potent and universal instrument of society,' must address itself to this duty. It is not merely a duty, it is the truest political wisdom. These people ought to be strength of our strength; shall we let them become our weakness? They have a rankling sense of wrong which only kindness can heal. The aim should be to 'Hinduise' them more and more—for they belong to the Hindu community really—and to offer them every facility to remain within the fold. They will be a mighty accession to the strength of our body politic; if not they will be an equally heavy subtraction from it. Alienated, they will introduce an additional element of heterogeneity which will further complicate the already difficult problems of

administration. No possible means of amelioration should be neglected and every friend of Hindu society, every lover of Mysore, should supplement the efforts of Government with all his strength."

EDUCATION.

In pursuance of this policy, the Government have provided special facilities for the education of the members of the Harijan and other depressed classes at an annual cost of about Rs. 2½ lakhs. The Harijans have not only got the right of admission to all public schools and colleges, but the Government have established special schools for them. On 30th June 1935, there were 568 special primary schools for the education of pupils belonging to the depressed classes, with a strength of 11,458, while 9,147 pupils were reading in the general schools. There were six Government boarding homes and twelve aided hostels for the benefit of pupils of these classes, of which nine were exclusively for Harijans. Scholarships of the aggregate value of Rs. 25,000 are distributed every year among boys and girls of the depressed classes, besides giving exemptions from the payment of tuition and examination fees. A sum of about Rs. 5,000 is annually set apart for the free distribution of clothes, books and slates to pupils in primary schools who are not scholarship-holders. In recent years, the Government have adopted the policy of gradually amalgamating the special schools with the general schools. There is, therefore, a gradual reduction in the number of special schools year by year.

In order to improve the economic condition of the Harijans the Government have encouraged and supported the formation of a large number of co-operative societies for their exclusive benefit. On 30th June 1935 there were 227 Harijan co-operative societies in the State, of which 208 were credit, 16 weavers' and two cobblers' societies. The gradual reduction in the number of Harijan societies is due to the fact that the

Government have been pursuing a policy of amalgamating them with local credit institutions. The 227 Harijan societies had a total membership of 5,954, a paid-up share capital of Rs. 52,150, deposits amounting to Rs. 7,021, and a total working capital (including Government loan of Rs. 47,815) of Rs. 1,38,960. There are two co-operative colonies for Harijans at Gothigere and Byrapur, and a Harijan extension providing sites for 60 families has been formed on a co-operative basis in Nangli village, Mulbagal Taluk.

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Mysore has been appointed the special officer "to attend to all such questions for the betterment of the depressed classes as relate to housing, relief of indebtedness, improvement of their habits, social morals and customs, the formation of agricultural colonies, land settlements and the starting of special co-operative societies for industrial and other purposes for their benefit" and "to keep himself in touch with what is being done in the various departments for the benefit of the depressed classes and co-ordinate the measures adopted for their economic improvement." The Government had appointed a magic lantern lecturer for doing propaganda work among the depressed classes. But the post has now been abolished as a measure of retrenchment. Special rules have been framed by the Government for granting lands to landless Harijans, and special funds have been placed at the disposal of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for advancing loans to co-operative societies to enable their Harijan members to bring the lands, granted to them by the revenue authorities, under cultivation. Loans have also been granted free of interest and repayable in 15 annual instalments, for house-building purposes. The Government have further made provision for the free grant of timber and bamboos up to Rs. 15 per family for building sanitary dwelling houses. A sum of one or two thousand rupees is annually placed at the disposal of the Registrar of

Co-operative Societies for the development of the co-operative movement among the depressed classes. This amount is generally utilised for granting bonus to secretaries of depressed classes societies, for supply of agricultural implements to Harijan members at half cost, for the supply of account books and registers to the societies and for propaganda work.

In respect of appointments to the public services of the State, qualified candidates of depressed classes seeking employment in Government departments were till recently given the first preference. The Government have now placed them on the same footing as other backward communities in the State. As regards political privileges, special representation through nomination has been accorded to the depressed classes. In 1929, the number of seats in the Representative Assembly guaranteed to them was raised from three to six. There is a convention to nominate at least one representative of the depressed classes to the Legislative Council. And provision has also been made to nominate their representatives to the local bodies in important places.

NON-OFFICIAL ORGANISATIONS.

Besides the Government, there is a large number of non-official organisations in the State that are engaged in Harijan uplift work. The Adi-Karnataka Sangha of Mavalli, the Adi-jambava Sangha of Gopalapuram, the Kaniyar Sangha, the Mysore Adi-Karnataka Sahaya Sangha and the Depressed Class Mission of the Kolar Gold Fields are the important institutions started and managed by Harijans themselves. The Tagadur Satyagraha Ashrama, the Kengeri Gurukula, the Bangalore Deena Seva Sangha, the Civic and Social Progress Association and the Arya Samaj are some of the general associations which have been doing also Harijan uplift work.

The inauguration of the Mysore Provincial Harijan Sevak Sangha opens a new chapter in the history of Harijan uplift

work in Mysore. It was for the first time that a provincial organisation was formed in the State. This institution was started on the 15th of December 1931 under the distinguished presidency of the late Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, and in December 1932 it became affiliated to the All-India Harijan Sevak Sangha, Delhi. Since that date, it has been functioning as the Provincial Board of the All-India organisation for the Mysore State and Coorg.

The Sangha carries on activities of a twofold character. First, it carries on propaganda for bringing about a complete change in the sentiments and opinions of the caste Hindus with regard to the removal of untouchability and the enjoyment of full civic rights by the Harijans. Secondly, the Sangha undertakes activities calculated to improve the educational, economic and social condition of the Harijans. The social and religious position of the Harijans in the Hindu community cannot improve unless they themselves try to improve their lot. Their present low position in the social scale is partly due to the fact that they follow occupations, eat food and live in surroundings which are considered to be unclean. The programme of welfare work is therefore so framed as to secure the educational and economic advancement of the Harijans and to develop their capacity for self-improvement.

During 1934-35 the Sangha maintained 14 day schools and 17 night schools with a strength of 666 boys at a cost of Rs. 996-13-0. There were under its control four hostels providing boarding and lodging for 73 boys at a cost of Rs. 1,113-2-1. A grant-in-aid of Rs. 240 was given to two hostels. Scholarships amounting to Rs. 148-13-6 were granted to students who had taken up general and vocational courses. Books, tools, clothes, etc., of the value of Rs. 82-10-9 were distributed. Grants aggregating Rs. 502 were given to five Bhajana Mandirams. The total amount of money spent on educational work during the year was Rs. 3,149-2-10.

Besides educational work, the Sangha was engaged in other welfare activities. Four Harijan wells were got repaired. A temple at Tagadur was built for the common use of Harijans and caste Hindus. A co-operative society was started at Dodballapur. A sum of Rs. 170 was spent on medical relief. Through the exertions of the Sangha, a Harijan graduate secured employment in Government service. The Bangalore City Municipality has given, free of cost, 88 sites to the Sangha for building a Harijan colony. It has been decided to build small dwelling houses on these sites out of the Harijan Purse Fund collections in Bangalore and to let them out to poor people on easy terms. Provision has been made to establish a social settlement in the colony, so that it may serve as a school, a Bhajana Mandiram and a centre of social welfare activity. During Mahatma Gandhi's Harijan tour in the State in 1934, a sum of Rs. 29,877-15-10 was collected towards the Purse Fund. Of this, Rs. 22,402-0-0 is available for use in the State. Up to 30th September 1935, a sum of Rs. 3,753-11-0 has been drawn from the Purse Fund and spent on welfare work.

There are at present 16 district and local committees working in the State under the control and direction of the Mysore Provincial Harijan Sevak Sangha. The Sangha maintains seven paid whole-time propaganda workers at a cost of Rs. 82 per mensem. All these workers are members of the Harijan community.

Temple Entry.

Since the date of its inception, the Sangha has conducted a large number of meetings and conferences of both the general public and the Harijans with a view to focus public opinion on the Harijan problem. A manifesto signed by a large number of members of the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council was submitted to the Government on 20th

September 1932, the day of Mahatma Gandhi's historic fast, for the removal of untouchability and the throwing open of all Muzrai temples to the Harijans. In the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council such of the members of the Sangha as are also members of those bodies have time and again moved resolutions and asked interpellations with a view to secure equal rights and opportunities to the untouchable classes. A resolution for throwing open Muzrai temples was passed in the Legislative Council in December 1932 without opposition and the Representative Assembly passed in June 1933 by 121 against 56 votes a resolution for the introduction of legislation to abolish untouchability in the State. A Bill to abolish untouchability was prepared by the Sangha; but it could not be introduced in the State legislature as permission for its introduction was not given. In September 1933 a representation was made to the Government in the Representative Assembly for throwing open all public roads, tanks, wells, dharmasalas, etc., to all classes of people without distinction of caste or creed, and the Government were pleased to pass orders throwing open all Government tanks to all without distinction of caste or community. Outside the legislature also, the Sangha has been carrying on an extensive propaganda for the removal of untouchability and for the promotion of temperance, cleanliness and better living among Harijans. Sanitary and welfare surveys have been conducted in important Harijan localities and special representations made to the Government and the municipal or local authorities concerned for the improvement of water-supply, lighting, housing and labour conditions of the Harijans.

From the foregoing paragraphs it is seen that what has so far been done in the State by official and non-official agencies, though highly commendable, does not amount to much when compared with the nature and the magnitude of the work that still remains to be done in the cause of Harijans. But the

unique movement which Mahatma Gandhi has inaugurated for the uplift of the Harijans has produced a marvellous change in the hearts and outlook of the caste Hindus, and it is hoped that under the enlightened and progressive rule of His Highness the Maharaja, Mysore will lead the way for reform ere long by admitting Harijans to the Palace durbars and Hindu temples on the same terms as caste Hindus and by abolishing untouchability by legislative enactment.

THE CONGRESS IN MYSORE.

BENEFICIAL REACTIONS.

By K. T. Bhashyam, M.L.C.

PRIOR to the advent of Mahatma Gandhi into Indian politics, the Congress was a distant object of admiration for a few educated men in the State. The visit of Mahatmaji to Mysore and the almost simultaneous introduction of the Khadi Movement led to the popularity of the Congress in the State. Committees were formed in district and taluk headquarters and vigorous propaganda was made for enrolment of members and for the spread of khadi. Alongside of it were carried on the campaigns against drink and untouchability. Among the pioneers of the Congress Movement in the State, I remember the tall and stately figure of the late S. S. Setlur assisted by his co-workers, Messrs. J. Bheema Rao and A. M. T. Acharya, who are also no longer with us.

The Tilak Swaraj Fund and the Khilafat Movement added to the enthusiasm of the Congress work. The volunteer corps drew large numbers of young men into the fold. The Nagpur Flag Satyagraha led a band of young men from Mysore State to court imprisonment in distant Nagpur. Messrs. S. N. M. Razvi and Ramlal Tiwari were among the stalwarts of those days.

The direct result of the Congress Movement was the demand for responsible government in the State. The demand was partly met by the Reforms of 1923 ; but the essence of responsibility does not exist. The Government of Mysore may be responsive or may not be ; but it certainly is not responsible. Even to this day the demand is there, strengthened and supported on all sides. The Congress has been working for it

in the State even as in British India—the problems are different, no doubt—but in so far as the demand for responsibility is concerned, it is the same. The earnest and studied efforts of Messrs. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao, S. R. S. Raghavan and others in the Congress Committees have yet to bear fruit.

UNTOUCHABILITY DISAPPEARING.

The campaign against untouchability has been since taken up by the Harijan Sevak Sangha. The Congress work in the field was remarkably successful. The distinction is disappearing, although not so rapidly as some of us would wish. It must be admitted that the Government of Mysore have been generous in their response so far as this aspect of Congress work is concerned. My friend Mr. T. Ramachandra is not a Congress politician but he is more than a Congress worker in this line.

The services of the Congress in the field of Labour is praiseworthy. As a result of Congress activity proclaiming the rights of individuals and nations and the popularisation of the labour movements of other countries, the wage earners, particularly in the mills in Bangalore City asserted their rights. Strikes and lock-outs, police firing, prosecutions and lathi charges, as usual everywhere, followed here also. Eventually Labour Unions were formed and step by step the movement is progressing. If Labour is receiving better attention to-day from the State and the capitalists, it is not a little due to the efforts of Congress workers on behalf of Labour, particularly of my friend Mr. P. M. Ramasarma.

The Civil Disobedience Movement roused the enthusiasm of the people to such an extent that hundreds of young men went to offer satyagraha and suffered incarceration. The sufferings and sacrifices of Sri Gowramma are memorable. Her husband Mr. Venkataramaiya suffered no less. Mr. S. A. S. Pillai in the C. & M. Station and his numerous volunteer co-workers suffered imprisonment in the cause.

Participation of Women.

One of the outstanding features of the Congress Movement is the participation of women in it. In the picketting of foreign cloth shops in Bangalore City many women volunteers took part and the movement was very successful. The Hindi Prachar Movement which is also a part of Congress work is to-day very largely successful because of women workers. The Khadi Movement is also drawing support and strength from the women in the State.

In the matter of the Khaddar Movement, I must state that the Government of Mysore have been responsive to a degree. They have started khadi centres; and the District Boards of Kadur and Kolar have followed the example. Nevertheless, until the officers wear khaddar as their uniform of public service, the slavery to foreign cloth will remain both in them and among the people. The prosperity of the villages round about the centres, Badanval, Terakanambi, etc., ought to be an eye-opener to them; and I cannot understand how any one sincere in his service to the country can afford to wear foreign cloth. There is no doubt, however, that we have yet to make much headway.

The Congress activities in the State have had their repercussions on the cultural and intellectual aspects of life. Love of one's country leads easily to a love of its past. The revival of Kannada and the desire for unification of the Karnatak districts are indirect results of the awakening. Simplicity in public life, a higher sense of public morality and a more selfless outlook in matters private as well as public, are the unconscious effects of the Congress Movement under the guidance and leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. This is markedly so in Mysore where the people are more innocent than clever.

In the main, the Congress Committees in the State have served to rouse the public conscience to a sense of its duty to the country. One cannot assert that the Congress in the

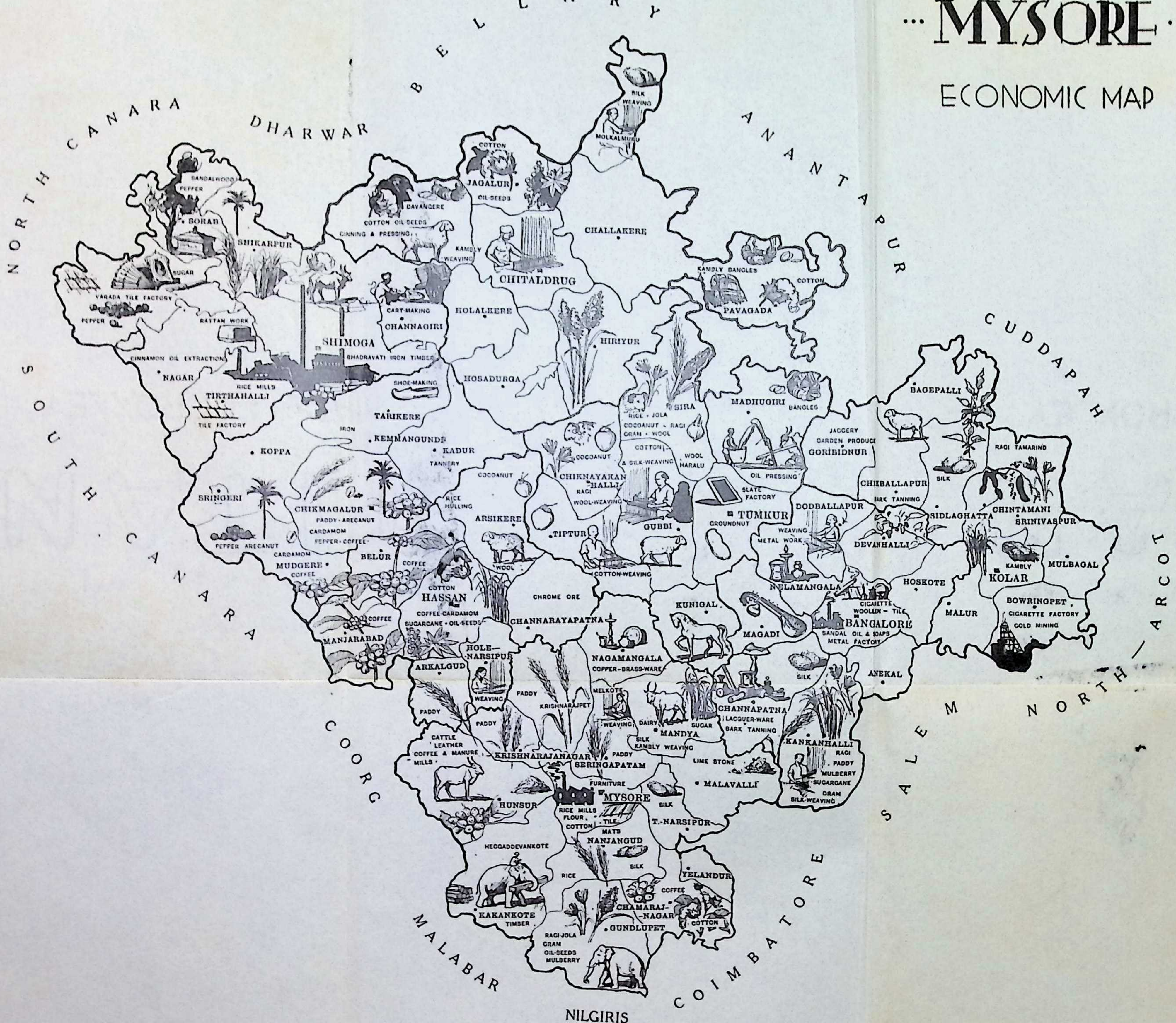
State has anything like a hold on the people's mind. The greatness of the parent institution, the personality of Mahatma Gandhi, and the sufferings and sacrifices of the thousands of Congress workers have all combined to give the local committees a status and a help with which they can serve even more energetically. But no one can deny that the Congress work in the State during the last twenty years has been characterised by earnestness and enthusiasm, self-sacrifice and devotion to public service.

In the coming years of political readjustments, the Congress in the State may play a prominent and useful part. The recent pronouncements of Congress leaders like Babu Rajendra Prasad and Pandit Jawaharlal should dispel all doubts regarding the attitude of the Congress towards the States and their people.

BANGALORE :
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRESS
1937

...MYSORE...

ECONOMIC MAP



SUPERINTENDENT
C·T·INSTITUTE · MYSORE